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No. 63

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 16, 2005, at 12:30 p.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2005

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, You laid the foundations of the Earth and defend the boundaries of the sea. You command the morning to appear and cause the dawn to rise in the east. Golden splendor comes from Your mountains and You lay out the path for the lightning.

Today, we pray for those who need Your touch. Bless those who live in our world's shadows and empower the unnoticed doing their duty.

Strengthen our Senators. Inspire them to work diligently to establish peace and justice in our world. Teach them each day to be good stewards of Your manifold grace. Sustain all those who suffer in our world, who stagger beneath burdens too heavy to carry.

We pray this in Your loving Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, May 13, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CHAFEE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under a previous order, the leader time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate majority leader.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today we return to the consideration of the highway bill. Yesterday, cloture was invoked by a vote of 92 to 7. We were then able to reach an agreement for finishing the bill on Tuesday. Under that agreement, Senators may offer

amendments today from the limited list agreed to last night. Chairman INHOFE is here and may also have some cleared amendments to dispose of this morning.

I announced last night that no rollcall votes would occur today. The next rollcall vote will be Monday at approximately 5:30. On Monday, we will again resume debate on the highway bill. Senators will have the final opportunity to offer their amendments. We will vote on one or two of those amendments on Monday evening. That will allow the Senate to return to the measure Tuesday morning and vote on the remaining amendments and final passage.

After consulting with the chairman of the committee and the Democrat leader, we are hopeful most of these amendments will not require votes, that only a few remaining amendments will need rollcall votes prior to passage.

As I did last night, I commend the managers for their hard work. I look forward to finishing the bill early next week. We have spent 2 weeks on this bill and given plenty of opportunity, plenty of time for Members to come forward. They have done so. We are on a final glidepath to completion of this very important bill.

### PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this Sunday marks the 24th anniversary of Peace Officers' Memorial Day. Each year, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the country

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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gather in the Nation's Capital to honor their comrades lost in the line of duty. They are accompanied by wives, husbands, sons, and daughters, along with families of the fallen.

It is a solemn occasion. It is a sacred occasion. It reminds us of the tremendous sacrifices our police officers make to keep us safe. Every day around the clock they are on the front lines defending our neighborhoods and protecting our lives, our homes, protecting our freedoms.

When we need an officer to investigate a dark alley, quell a domestic dispute, to chase an armed suspect, or subdue a criminal, we call these dedicated professionals to save us from harm. And each and every time they take a risk that our distress call could be their last.

I share very briefly a few stories of our proud heroes from Tennessee who, last year, gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Officer Jason Michael Scott of Loudoun County was shot and died on March 12, 2004, after responding to a family dispute. The station got a call that a teenager was attacking his mother. Officer Scott was sent to the scene. As Officer Scott climbed out of his patrol car to walk up to the house, he was shot four times with a high-powered rifle. The 16-year-old shooter then barricaded himself inside the home and exchanged gunfire with responding officers. The gunfight raged on for more than 20 hours before the disturbed young man committed suicide. Officer Scott was only 24 years old. His first child, Jayden Nicole, was born 11 days after his death. Our prayers are with the Scott family.

Even routine calls can lead to unexpected tragedy. Officer Christy Jo Dedman of Nashville was helping a motorist on the side of Interstate 40, not too far from my home, when a tractor trailer hit and killed her. In the flash of an instant, in one random moment, her life was taken.

At the funeral of Officer Mark Vance in Bristol, TN, an officer remarked:

You always know when you go out that you are taking a risk but you do not think it is going to happen.

Officer Vance was only 30 years old when he was shot and killed on a domestic violence call. Our prayers are with each and every member of his family.

Tonight, the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial will hold a candlelight vigil to honor Officer Vance along with his fellow colleagues killed in the line of duty. Over 20,000 people are expected to attend the ceremony tonight. The names of the 153 heroes will be read, as will the names of 262 other fallen officers from years past.

On Sunday, a memorial service will be held on the West Front of the Capitol. The President will be on hand to honor these heroes. I look forward to paying my respects to each of these courageous men and women.

I will take a moment now to single out Tennessee's own who are included

on this solemn roster: Sergeant Andy Thaddeus Bailey of Jackson; Officer Christy Jo Dedman of Nashville; Patrolman Timothy Howard Dunn of Shelby County; Patrolman J. Matthew Rittenhouse of Harriman; Deputy Sheriff Jason Michael Scott of Lenoir City; Patrolman Marlon Allen Titus of Memphis; and finally, Mark Edward Vance of Bristol.

Our hearts go out to their families, friends, and colleagues who were made safer by their service. We all suffer their tragic loss. In their honor I pledge to keep working hard to show our commitment in the Senate.

Last year, I cosponsored the Law Enforcement Safety Act, which the President signed into law. This legislation had been the No. 1 priority for our Nation's law enforcement community for years. Finally, last year, Congress passed it. It is now the law of the land.

The new law allows current and retired police officers to carry a concealed weapon in any of the 50 States. America now has the added security of tens of thousands of trained and certified law enforcement officers serving and protecting us across the country and even into retirement.

There are more than 870,000 sworn law enforcement officers now serving communities across America, the highest number ever. I thank each and every one of them and their families for their selfless courage, their sacrifice, and their dedication to public safety. Each of these officers is a hero. I honor them. Each of these officers has a family who deserves our appreciation and gratitude for their sacrifice. May God bless our women and men in blue.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SAFTEA PLANNING AND MITIGATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, the bill before us today recognizes some of the challenges that face States and metropolitan planning agencies when developing plans for future highway projects.

We have included natural resource and environmental factors for States and metropolitan planning agencies to consider when developing their transportation plans. They should consider protecting habitat, water quality and agricultural and forest land while minimizing invasive species.

While I am most familiar with aquatic invasive species such as the sea lamprey and the zebra mussel that are wreaking havoc on my beloved Lake

Champlain, nonnative species of vegetation have been degrading public and private property, degrading habitat, crops, and pastures.

State transportation planning agencies can become active stewards in roadside management by phasing out the uses of nonnative vegetation and reestablishing native plants on our rights-of-way. In addition to considering invasive species during the planning process, this bill makes funding available for the control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species.

To help States and metropolitan planning agencies assess the environmental impacts of proposed highway projects we suggest consulting with other State and local agencies. Those responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation and historic preservation should compare transportation plans with State conservation plans.

This would include inventories of natural or historic resources and consideration of areas where wildlife crossing structures may be needed to ensure connectivity between wildlife habitat linkage areas.

This commonsense approach will assure that transportation planners will consider the location of important habitat, wetlands and other natural resources at the earliest stages of planning for new roads. These provisions will make project delivery faster and more efficient.

Currently, transportation projects are often planned without detailed information on core conservation areas, sensitive resources or important habitat that might lie within the selected corridor. These conflicts do not come to light until the environmental review process, which then becomes more expensive and time-consuming as transportation and resource officials try to reconcile infrastructure and conservation activities. These provisions will help transportation planners in avoiding unnecessary impacts on wildlife habitat and in mitigating for unavoidable impacts of a project.

These provisions encourage States to utilize available wildlife habitat data and maps to inform the long-range transportation planning process. Planners would be able to identify potential concerns at the earliest stage of planning, when options for minimizing impacts are greatest and costs of doing so are lowest.

Over 200 Americans die each year in wildlife-vehicle collisions, many more are injured and more than 1 million animals are killed on our roadways every day.

State and Federal agencies spend considerable time and money both protecting natural areas and building transportation infrastructure. Unfortunately, conservation and growth efforts often happen independently and then come into conflict during the permitting and construction phases of a

transportation project. These investments need to be coordinated. If conservation efforts are taken into account at the earliest stages of transportation planning, both priorities can be realized, in less time and at less cost.

While none of us have a crystal ball that can show us what the future will look like, through consultation, transportation planners can get a picture of the broader landscape and see what the consequences of a proposed project might be. In some instances, potential environmental and habitat impacts can be avoided.

The most significant threat to the biodiversity of this country is habitat loss. However, thoughtful, forward-looking transportation planning can go a long way towards reducing negative impacts and mitigating for unavoidable impacts. Over the next few decades, the decisions we make regarding highways and the ensuing loss of habitat will determine the fate of species and America's biodiversity. These provisions are aimed at helping to preserve that biodiversity through coordinated planning.

Another provision focuses on improving environmental stewardship in transportation projects by expanding the current eligibility for environmental restoration and pollution abatement from only those projects undergoing reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, or restoration to any project, as well as establish eligibility for invasive species control efforts.

Contributions to measures to control exotic and invasive plant species may precede, concur, or follow project construction if such measures are consistent with Federal law and State transportation planning processes. Finally, this bill recognizes that despite the best planning process, mitigation for impacts on habitat and natural resources from transportation projects may be necessary.

To help provide for needed mitigation, the bill allows the States to establish habitat and wetlands mitigation funds for efforts related to mitigation activities. The fund would allow States to undertake larger mitigation efforts based on the total impacts of multiple projects rather than the smaller scale of a single project. These changes to the planning process and increased consideration of environmental impacts will improve future transportation projects while protecting the environment.

This highway bill is about more than money. It is about balancing the needs of our Nation's transportation system with concerns about our natural habitats. We have done our best to strike that balance in this bill.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

##### Pending:

Inhofe amendment No. 605, to provide a complete substitute.

Dorgan amendment No. 652 (to amendment No. 605), to provide for the conduct of an investigation to determine whether market manipulation is contributing to higher gasoline prices.

Inhofe (for Ensign) amendment No. 636 (to amendment No. 605), to authorize the State of Nevada to continue construction of the US-95 Project in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Allen/Ensign amendment No. 611 (to amendment No. 605), to modify the eligibility requirements for States to receive a grant under section 405 of title 49, United States Code.

Schumer amendment No. 674 (to amendment No. 605), to increase the transit pass and van pooling benefit to \$200.

Sessions Modified amendment No. 646 (to amendment No. 605), to reduce funding for certain programs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont is recognized.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I would like to spend a few minutes discussing an important provision in the highway bill before us.

Section 4(f) of the highway bill provides important protections for historic sites, parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges throughout the country. With the increasing demand for transportation projects, it is important that we not lose sight of our natural treasures. We need to balance the growing need for transportation with responsible stewardship of our history and natural resources.

In my State of Vermont, we have a wealth of history and natural beauty. To see the wildlife that populate the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge or the covered bridges used by our forefathers—is to experience a heritage that we all want preserved for future generations. Section 4(f) has helped preserve these treasures.

The Revolutionary War site at Fort Vehemence on Route 7 in Pittsford, VT, was avoided as a result of 4(f). An excellent collection of historic metal truss bridges across the Connecticut River were rehabilitated, not replaced, as a result of 4(f). A road in the Danville Historic District was narrowed in order to keep the historic characteristics of the historic village because of 4(f).

While constructing a new highway in Vermont, we have discovered a significant archeological site containing arti-

facts from Native Americans, providing us with a piece of history that until now was not known. By documenting this site, we will expand our knowledge of Vermont's Native Americans. Also, because of 4(f) protections, 4(f) is amended in this legislation.

The objective of this amendment is to allow transportation projects and programs to move forward more quickly, while maintaining the protections of 4(f). Those protections assure that there will be public notice and opportunity for public review and comment on proposed "de minimis" determinations for transportation projects. And that affected agencies will concur in the decision of the Secretary of Transportation that there will be no adverse impact on a historic site, recreation area, park, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge. The provision would require the Secretary of Transportation, when making a finding that a transportation project or program will have a "de minimis" impact, to consider all avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and enhancement measures that have been incorporated into the project.

This provision allows project sponsors to incorporate environmentally protective measures into the project from the beginning, in order to support a finding of "de minimis" impact.

These mitigation measures must be carried out and be shown to have the intended impact. If they are not having the intended impact, other measures must be used to ensure no adverse impact. This is an important strengthening of the 4(f) program that will protect our heritage while planning for needed transportation projects.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, first, I thank the ranking member of our committee, Senator JEFFORDS, for the hard work he has done, as well as Senator BAUCUS and Senator GRASSLEY, who have worked very hard and, of course, Senator BOND, who is chairman of the transportation subcommittee of the committee I chair.

This has been 3 years in the making. What we are looking at right now is very significant. We are to the point now where we are down to a handful of amendments that remain—probably the most significant bill that would be passed this year. It appears that under the rules of cloture, we probably will have our vote on this and be able to take amendments between 2 o'clock and 4 o'clock on Monday, and vote on some amendments starting at 4 p.m. I hope we vote on quite a few. I think we will end up with about six more total votes before this is done.

If we get some of those out of the way Monday night, by Tuesday, when we go in, we will be able to finish and have final passage on this bill and send it to conference. We went through this exercise a year ago and we were able to get it to conference. Unfortunately, we lacked one signature of getting a conference report and getting it back here.

This time that will not happen. People are aware of the fact it is critical that we have a bill. We cannot operate on any more extensions.

Let me remind everyone there are two choices right now. We are operating under six extensions. When you have an extension, all you do is take the previous authorization and extend it. That means you don't get any of the good things we have done in putting this bill together. We are operating on a bill that passed 7 years ago. We have done some things that are far better for America and for every State represented if we pass the bill as opposed to an extension. If we pass a bill, we are going to be able to take care of donor States' rate of return. If we don't pass a bill, we will not be able to do that. Last year's bill would have brought every State from the 90.5-percent participation up to 95 percent. Since this is not funded at as high a level as it was last year, it would only guarantee an ultimate return of 92 percent.

One of the biggest parts of this program—and we have been calling it SAFETEA because we have the SAFETEA core programs included. They came through the Commerce Committee. When you look at the deaths on the highways and the problems we are having out there—in my State of Oklahoma, we have had two deaths from bridge accidents, crumbling and falling on people and cars down below. Without the bill, we won't be able to have those SAFETEA programs. It is a matter of life and death to have this bill, streamlining provisions in order for us to act quickly and get these roads built. That will not happen under an extension. We will have to pass the bill.

In this bill, we actually put together a national commission to explore new ways of financing roads. When you look at our National Highway System, as Senator JEFFORDS and I have mentioned several times, it started in the 1960s, during the Eisenhower administration. It came to his attention that we had a problem when he was Major Eisenhower during World War II and trying to move services and troops and personnel and equipment across America. He realized the problems. When he became President, he started the National Highway System. It is built now—not maintained but built. We have been financing roads, bridges, and maintenance in the same way for almost 50 years now. We have this national commission that will explore new ways to get private participation in funding and transfer most of this to the States, where it belongs. That is not going to happen if we are on an extension.

There is Routes to School Program. We have had young people die and this addresses that. Again, if we don't pass the bill, we will not have the Safe Routes to School provisions, and we are going to have to operate on an extension. That is not acceptable.

There are border programs. We have several border States and we need to address their special needs with the transportation as a result of NAFTA and other programs, coming from other countries through the United States. We have a border program to accommodate that. We are not going to have it if we don't have the bill passed, because there will be an extension of a 7-year-old bill.

Lastly, is the firewall protection of the trust fund. I think everyone knows there is an irresistible propensity around Washington to spend other people's money, and when they see an opportunity to get a pet project by taking something out of the trust fund, they do it. Consequently, we have a lot of policies that are passed here, whether it is using ethanol or fuel-efficient cars, these programs to encourage them to do it, they get benefits and that comes out of the trust fund. That is a raid on the trust fund. This builds firewalls so that cannot happen. Without that, the raids will continue. That is why it is important we pass this bill. I know we are going to pass it. We have no doubt about that. Last year, we passed it to conference 76 to 21. I anticipate we will have that same margin of victory when we send this bill to conference.

We have been appealing for people to bring amendments to the floor. We are to the point now where people are working on the amendments, so that is going to have to wait until Monday afternoon. Again, that will be between 2 and 4 o'clock. I hope staff will be sure to advise their Members that is the time we will want to consider these amendments. If they want a vote on Monday, they better have their amendment down here, discussed, and debated between 2 and 4 o'clock.

The last point I want to mention is that somebody has received very unjust criticism. We have done a very good job—keep in mind we have been working on this 3 years now—we have done a very good job on the formula approach. What we want to do in our Senate bill is equitably distribute money to States based on certain criteria to be considered.

For example, if you are a donor State, then there is a factor that adjusts the distribution that comes to the State. If you are a donee State, it is the same thing. If you are an owed State, it is the same thing. If you are a small State or a State with low population, such as Montana and Wyoming, that is a factor in this formula.

We have factors on the death rate. My State of Oklahoma has a higher-than-average death rate on the highways on a per capita basis. It tells you something. What it tells you is there is a problem. We are going to have to correct the problem because people are dying.

The bottom line is, this is a life-or-death bill. So it is very important that we get this done. I appreciate the dedication of what we refer to as the big

four, the leaders of this legislation—the chairman of the committee, which is myself, Senator BOND, Senator JEFFORDS, and Senator BAUCUS. It has been a great team effort. It has been a bipartisan effort. There has not been one vote that has not been bipartisan. That is a change around here—people are working together. Maybe we will learn a lesson and this will expand to some of the other areas.

It is my understanding, unless someone else has something to say about the bill—we have covered it pretty well now for the last 10, 12 days—we are down to the short rows, and we are ready to move on to the 2 hours on Monday and then, of course, final passage on Tuesday.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CODE TALKERS RECOGNITION ACT

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, during World War II, Native Americans heard the call of their country and enlisted in the Armed Services in unprecedented numbers. Many of these brave men performed the role of code talkers, using a code language derived from a variety of American Indian languages to ensure secure and rapid communication of information on the battlefield. Through three wars and five decades, enemy forces were never able to break the U.S. code language thanks to the service and ingenuity of Native American code talkers. These patriots provided an invaluable service to the United States and our allies and deserve recognition for their bravery.

Until 1968, information related to the code talker's activities during both World Wars remained classified by the Department of Defense. The postponement in learning about the essential role of Native American Code Talkers has resulted in delayed recognition of these war heroes. The first step in recognizing these men came in 2000 when President Bush signed into law legislation authorizing Congress to award gold medals to the 29 Navajo code talkers as well as a silver medal to each man who later qualified as a Navajo code talker. While this legislation was a step in the right direction, it failed to recognize a number of Native Americans who also served as code talkers but were not members of the Navajo Nation.

During the first World War, Choctaw code talkers served with distinction in France. By transmitting in their native tongue a variety of open voice messages relating to unit movements, U.S. forces completely surprised the enemy during battle. Following the success of the Choctaw code talkers,

soldiers from the Navajo, Sioux, Comanche and Meskwaki tribes, along with members of 14 other tribes, served as code talkers in some of the most dangerous operations in both theaters of World War II.

Today I introduce the Code Talkers Recognition Act to honor those who were overlooked when medals were awarded to the Navajo code talkers in 2001. This bill authorizes the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as code talkers during any foreign conflict in which the United States was involved during the 20th century. I ask my colleagues to help honor the heroic contributions of these gentlemen by cosponsoring and passing this legislation.

#### PASSING OF CONGRESSMAN PETER RODINO JR.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of Congressman Peter Rodino.

We have lost a great man, a great New Jerseyan, and a great American.

I had the most profound respect for Congressman Rodino's wisdom, fairness, honesty and sense of justice. He emerged a leader during one of the most difficult times in our Nation's history and he was more than equal to the task.

Congressman Rodino was born in Newark, NJ. The son of Italian immigrants, he rose to prominence from humble origins, working his way through law school and attending classes at night to earn his degree.

During World War II, he served his country with distinction, earning a Bronze Star. He returned a captain after having been promoted in the field.

Upon his return, he sought public office. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948 and would serve in the House for 40 years. And during those years, Congressman Rodino earned the respect of his colleagues and the loyalty of his constituents. He sponsored the Civil Rights Act of 1966 and authored its fair employment practices amendment; he played an integral part in the drafting of numerous pieces of civil rights legislation. We can also thank him for sponsoring the bill making Columbus Day a holiday.

Many, however, remember Congressman Rodino most for his role in Watergate as chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

During Watergate, a tumultuous period for our country, we needed a touchstone for honesty, fairness, and bipartisanship. Congressman Rodino was that touchstone. Tip O'Neill said of his fellow representative: "He's enhanced the stature of Congress when we were at a low ebb." He earned the trust and respect of his fellow Democrats and Republicans.

He was a public servant in the truest sense of the phrase. We all can only hope to serve as he would and to rep-

resent our constituents with equal honor and grace.

My heartfelt sympathies go out to his family and friends. We all mourn his passing.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2133. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Collateral Valuation Improvement Act of 2005"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2134. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update Notice—Pension Funding Equity Act of 2004" (Notice 2005-39) received on May 11, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2135. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coordinated Issue: 'Notice 2002-50' Tax Shelter" (Uniform Issue List Number: 9300.21-00) received on May 11, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2136. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coordinated Issue: 'Notice 2002-65' Tax Shelter" (Uniform Issue List Number: 9300.22-00) received on May 11, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2137. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rev. Proc. 2005-16 and Volume Submitters" (Announcement 2005-37) received on May 11, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2138. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fourth annual report relative to the College Scholarship Fraud Prevention Act of 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2139. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's annual report on the regulatory status of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB)

"Most Wanted" Recommendations to the Department of Transportation for calendar year 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2140. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 43rd Annual Report of the Commission's activities for fiscal year 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2141. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Whistle Bans at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings" (RIN2130-AA71) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1034. A bill to provide for local control for the siting of windmills; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. JOHN-SON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1035. A bill to authorize the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 610

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 610, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a small agri-biodiesel producer credit and to improve the small ethanol producer credit.

S. 914

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 914, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a competitive grant program to build capacity in veterinary medical education and expand the workforce of veterinarians engaged in public health practice and biomedical research.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1034. A bill to provide for local control for the siting of windmills; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am here today to introduce, along with the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, the Environmentally Responsible Wind Power Act of 2005.

The legislation that Senator WARNER and I offer provides for local authorities to be notified and have a role in the approval of the signing of tens of thousand of massive wind turbines that will be built in America under current policies. It also ensures that the Federal Government does not subsidize the building of these windmills, which are usually taller than a football field is long, within 20 miles of a military base or a highly scenic location, such as a national park or offshore.

Senator WARNER and I introduce our legislation today because next week the Senate Energy Committee is scheduled to begin markup on one of the most important pieces of legislation in this session, an energy bill. The Energy Committee's work, combined with the work of the Environment and Public Works Committee, which the distinguished occupant of the chair chairs, and the Finance Committee should this year produce a Clean Energy bill that will, over time, lower prices of natural gas and oil and reduce our dependence on overseas oil. This will be legislation for American blue-collar workers, for farmers, and for homeowners. It is urgently needed.

Natural gas prices are the highest in the industrialized world. Gasoline prices are at record levels. We cannot keep our jobs and our standard of living if we do not put in place policies that will provide our country with new steps toward conservation and an adequate supply of low-cost, reliable, clean American produced energy. Senator WARNER and I both intend to be in the middle of this discussion. He is a senior member of the Environment and Public Works committee. I am chairman of the Energy Subcommittee.

I am grateful for, and I am greatly encouraged by, the leadership of the Energy Committee chairman Senator DOMENICI, and the ranking Democrat, Senator BINGAMAN, and the committee staff who have worked especially hard to create a framework for a more aggressive bipartisan piece of legislation than we were able to produce last year.

One part of our energy debate will be about wind power, which is the subject of the legislation that Senator WARNER and I offer today. We are introducing this because several of our colleagues have proposed something called a renewable portfolio standard, or RPS, which would require power companies to produce 10 percent of all their electricity from renewable sources by 2025. These renewable sources are wind, hydro, solar, geothermal, and biomass. Today, these renewable sources produce about 9 percent of U.S. electricity needs.

This RPS is not to be confused with the renewable fuel standard which is a different sort of requirement, one that gasoline contain a certain percentage of ethanol. That matter is the subject for the jurisdiction of another committee. A renewable fuel standard is entirely different from a renewable portfolio standard and may well be part of the final legislation.

It is important for our colleagues to know that a renewable portfolio standard, or RPS, is all about wind. There are limited opportunities to build new dams today in order to expand hydropower, and hydro produces 7 of the 9 percent of renewable power that we have in America today. Of the remaining 2 percent of our electricity that is produced by other renewable sources, current subsidies are not enough to increase solar power by very much.

More research and development is needed to make biomass more efficient, and there is a limited amount of geothermal power that is drawing power from water that is heated underground, which leaves wind power. Experts agree that the bottom line is that a requirement that electric companies produce 10 percent of their electricity from renewable energy, if it could be achieved at all, would mean about 70 percent of the increase would come from wind. In other words, we would go from producing about 1 percent of America's electricity from wind to about 7 or 8 percent.

Testimony before our Energy Committee and most other sources suggest that to produce this much wind energy in the United States could require building more than 100,000 new massive wind turbines. We have less than 7,000 such windmills in the United States today, with the largest number in Texas and California. Testimony before our committee also indicated that even without the RPS, if Congress continues its generous subsidy for wind production for the next 10 years—it will guarantee that we have these 100,000 windmills or more by the year 2025. According to the Treasury Department, this wind subsidy, if renewed each year for the next 5 years, would reimburse wind investors for 25 percent of the cost of wind production and cost taxpayers \$3.7 billion over those 5 years.

I'm told that General Electric Wind, one of the largest manufacturers of wind turbines, has experienced a 500-percent growth in its wind business this year due to the renewal of the wind production tax credit last year.

I want to make sure my colleagues know that there are serious questions about how much relying on wind power will raise the cost of electricity, questions about whether there are better ways to spend \$3.7 billion in support of clean energy, and questions about whether wind even produces the amount of energy that it is claimed to produce.

My studies suggest that at a time when America needs large amounts of low-cost reliable power, wind produces puny amounts of high-cost unreliable power. We need lower prices. Wind power production raises prices. We will have an opportunity in our debates and further hearings to examine these questions.

The legislation Senator WARNER and I offer today is about a different question: the siting or location of 100,000 of these massive machines. Now, the idea

of windmills conjures up pleasant images in Tennessee and, I am sure, in Oklahoma, of Holland and tulips, images of rural America with windmill blades turning slowly, pumping water at the farm well.

My grandparents had such a windmill at their well pump. That was back before rural electrification. The windmills we are talking about today are not our grandmother's windmills. Each one of these windmills is typically 100 yards tall, two stories taller than the Statue of Liberty, taller than a football field is long. These windmills are wider than a 747 jumbo jet. Their rotor blades turn at 100 miles per hour. These towers and their flashing red lights can be seen from more than 25 miles away. Their noise can be heard for up to a half a mile away. It is a thumping and swishing sound. It has been described by residents who are unhappy with the noise as sounding like a brick wrapped in a towel tumbling in a clothes dryer on a perpetual basis.

These windmills produce very little power since, of course, they only operate when the wind blows enough or when it does not blow too much. So they are usually placed in large wind farms covering huge amounts of land.

This is an example of what they look like. In comparison, we often worry about offshore drilling for oil and gas. In fact, Senator JOHNSON and I have introduced legislation that would permit States to expand the use of offshore oil and gas. Offshore oil and gas rigs can be placed far out to sea, where nobody on shore can see them. Compare that with the power produced by today's massive wind turbines. It would take 46 square miles of these windmills spread across the landscape to equal one oil or gas rig that one could not see.

As an example, the Congress ordered electric companies to build 10 percent of their power from renewable energy which, as we have said, has to be mostly wind. If we renew the current subsidy each year, by the year 2025 my State of Tennessee would have about 1,700 of these windmills, which would cover land almost two times the size of the city of Knoxville, TN. If Virginia, Senator WARNER's State, were to produce 10 percent of its power from wind by 2025 and the subsidies continue, it would probably need more than 1,700 windmills. These windmills would take up enough land to equal the land mass of three cities the size of Richmond, VA. In North Carolina, to supply 10 percent of the electricity from wind, it would take almost the land mass of the Research Triangle, the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area. According to testimony before our committee, in Tennessee and Virginia these windmills would work best and perhaps work only at all along the ridge tops.

So this is what things might be looking like. This is a picture of the Grand Canyon in the West, but we can imagine what it might look like in the East. If our present policies on wind are continued, we could expect to see hundreds



of football-field sized towers as wide as jumbo jets with flashing red lights atop the Blue Ridges of Virginia, above the Shenandoah Valley, along the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, on top of Signal Mountain, on top of Lookout Mountain and Roan Mountain in Tennessee, and down the Tennessee River gorge which the city of Chattanooga has just spent 25 years protecting, and now it calls itself the scenic city.

I hope we decide there are better ways to provide clean energy than to spend \$3.7 billion of taxpayer dollars over the next 5 years on windmills. I hope we decide we need a real national energy policy instead of a national windmill policy. I hope we decide there are better and cheaper ways to discuss carbon. At least there are some important questions we need to answer.

What will this number of windmills do to our tourism industry? Will 10 million visitors who come a year to enjoy the Great Smoky Mountains really want to come to see ridge tops with flashing red lights and 100-yard tall windmills? What happens to electric rates when the Federal subsidy disappears in a few years? Who will take down these massive structures if we decide we do not like them or if they do not work? Who is making the money on all of this, and why are some European countries who pioneered wind farms now slowing down or even stopping their construction in some places?

Clearly, there are likely to be more sensible ways to provide clean energy than spending \$3.7 billion of taxpayer money over the next 5 years to destroy the American landscape. For example, \$3.7 billion would provide enough money to give 185,000 Americans a \$2,000 subsidy to buy a hybrid or a clean diesel vehicle, which would be about double the number of hybrid cars expected to be sold in the United States during this year. Hybrid cars burn about 60 percent of the amount of gasoline that conventional cars burn. Or \$3.7 billion would provide enough money for loan guarantees to help launch a dozen new clean coal gasification plants and help transform the marketplace with new technology for clean American-produced energy that would lower natural gas prices and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. For \$3.7 billion, we could provide loan guarantees for at least half a dozen new technology nuclear powerplants and have a billion dollars left over for research and development on the recapture of carbon that might be produced by coal plants or to encourage conservation prices.

Just by way of comparison, a nuclear powerplant such as the Tennessee Valley Authority's Sequoyah nuclear plant would produce about the same amount of energy as the windmills, which a renewable portfolio standard and the tax subsidy would build in Tennessee. The electricity would be available even when the wind was not blowing. So while we are debating the wisdom of wind policies over the next sev-

eral weeks, these massive turbines are being built across America, 6,700 of them so far, 29 of them in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Valley Authority recently announced it had signed a 20-year contract with a group of investors from Chicago to build 18 huge windmills atop a 3,300-foot ridge on Buffalo Mountain in east Tennessee. So the purpose of our legislation being offered today is to give citizens the opportunity to have some say in where these massive structures are located in their communities and to make sure that the Congress does not subsidize the destruction of the American landscape near our national parks or other highly scenic areas or build such tall structures dangerously close to our military bases.

First, the bill ensures that local authorities are notified and have a role in the approval of new windmills to be built in their areas of jurisdiction. This means that at the same time a proposed windmill is filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC would notify the local authority with zoning jurisdiction. Under this bill, within 120 days, local authorities may support or oppose the project. If they support it, the windmill may qualify for FERC marketbased rates—that means allowed to charge wholesale prices—and may be exempt from a series of regulations that restrict the operations of public utilities. If local authorities oppose the windmill, it may still go forward but subject to regulations—we call them PUCHA—and unable to charge wholesale rates or issue a qualified rate schedule. If no action is taken by the local authority, the FERC process would proceed as though the authority were in support.

I believe it is crucial that local authorities have a chance to consider the impact of such massive new structures before dozens or hundreds of them begin to be built in their communities. In many other instances involving the location of facilities generating power, State and local governments have developed laws giving citizens an opportunity to comment or even stop the location of facilities they do not want. Our legislation gives communities that do not have such laws the chance to do just that, and then this legislation sunsets or expires in 7 years.

The second thing our legislation would do is provide protection to highly scenic areas and at military bases. I do not think we want to see hundreds of windmills in the Grand Canyon or just outside the Grand Canyon or in the foothills of the Great Smokies or when we go to see the Grand Tetons. There are plenty of places we do not want to see that. This makes sure it does not happen. It does so by eliminating tax subsidies for any windmills within 20 miles of a world heritage area, which includes many national parks, and within 20 miles of military bases or offshore.

Under the bill, placement of a windmill within 20 miles of such a site shall

also require the completion of an environmental impact statement. Further, any windmill that is to be constructed within 20 miles of a neighboring State's border may be vetoed by that neighboring State. In other words, if the neighboring State can see it and does not want it, they can veto it.

I used the same kind of analogy when I introduced legislation to allow offshore drilling since offshore drilling can be put so far off sight that one does not need to see it. If Virginia wants to do it and North Carolina can see it and they do not like it, they can veto it. I believe the same thing should apply to these massive windmills.

I believe that during our debates, we will find that there are better ways to produce a low-cost reliable supply of American energy than by spending \$3.7 billion over the next 5 years, requiring power companies to produce energy from giant windmills that raise electric rates, only work when the wind blows, and destroy the American landscape.

The legislation that Senator JOHNSON and I have introduced, the Natural Gas Price Reduction Act of 2005, includes support for aggressive conservation, new clean coal gas plants, new supplies of domestic natural gas, and, for the time being, easier import of liquefied natural gas. We did this because natural gas is at \$7 a unit around the world, and that needs to change. In the USA, it is the highest priced gas anywhere in the industrial world. The chemical plants in Oklahoma, Colorado and Tennessee will find it likely that they will be moving their jobs to other parts of the world where the price of natural gas is not so high.

(Mr. ALLARD assumed the Chair.)

Mr. ALEXANDER. I believe there is an important place in our energy bill for renewable fuels such as ethanol, and I believe there is an important place for renewable energy sources. For example, the legislation Senator JOHNSON and I introduced a few weeks ago would increase from 10 percent to 30 percent the tax credit for commercial investments in solar technology that generates electricity, heats or cools a structure, uses fiber optics, and illuminates a building or provides solar process heat. It provides a similar 30-percent tax credit for a solar system that heats a home. But it is important to keep in mind that, aside from wind, renewable energy can only provide about 3 percent of America's total energy needs over the next 20 years. I am excluding from that, also, hydro.

In the United States of America, the wholesale destruction of the American landscape is not an incidental concern. The great American outdoors is an essential part of the American character. Italy has its art, Egypt has its pyramids, England has its history, and we have the great American outdoors. In fact, the song "America the Beautiful" was written in Colorado, the State of the Presiding Officer. We care about that.

In my home County of Blount County, TN, my father and lots of other people worked at the Alcoa plant for many years to save money and buy a home. Where did they want to buy a home? They wanted to buy a home on streets that were named Mountain View, or Scenic Drive, because they loved to look at the Great Smoky Mountains.

While we debate the merits of so much subsidy and reliance on wind power, we should at the same time protect our national parks, our shorelines, and our other highly scenic areas. And we should give American citizens the opportunity to protect their communities and landscapes before it is too late.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1034

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Environmentally Responsible Windpower Act of 2005".

#### SEC. 2. LOCAL CONTROL FOR SITING OF WINDMILLS.

(a) **LOCAL CONTROL.**—Prior to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issuing to any onshore and above-water wind turbine project its Exempt-Wholesale Generator Status, Market-Based Rate Authority, or Qualified Facility rate schedule, the wind project shall file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission its Local Approval Authorization.

(b) **LOCAL APPROVAL AUTHORIZATION.**—

(1) In this section, the term "Local Authorities" means the governing body, and the senior executive of the body, at the lowest level of government that possesses authority under State law to carry out this Act.

(2) Local Approval Authorization is a resolution from the local governing body and local senior executive (collectively, the "Local Authorities") approving or denying the siting of such wind project.

(3) Such resolution approving or denying the project shall be produced by the Local Authorities within 120 days of the filing of the Market-Based Rate application or Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form number 556 (or a successor form) at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(4) If such resolution is not issued by the local authorities within 120 days of the filing of the Market-Based Rate application or Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form number 556 (or a successor form) at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, then such project is deemed to have obtained its Local Approval Authorization.

(5) Applicant shall notify in writing the local authorities on the day of the filing of such Market-Based Rate application or Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form number 556 (or a successor form) at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Evidence of such notification shall be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(6) The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall notify in writing the local authorities within 10 days of the filing of such Market-Based Rate application or Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form num-

ber 556 (or a successor form) at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(7) If the Local Authorities deny the siting of a wind project, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall not issue to the project Market-Based Rate Authority, Exempt Wholesaler Generator Status, or Qualified Facility rate schedule.

(c) **DETERMINATION OF NEIGHBORING STATES.**—

(1) In this subsection, the term "viewshed" means the area located within 20 miles of the boundary of a State.

(2) If an offshore, above-water windmill project under this section is located within the viewshed of an adjacent State, the adjacent State may determine that the project is inconsistent with the development plan of the State under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.).

(3) If a State makes a determination under paragraph (2), the affected windmill project shall terminate.

(d) **HIGHLY SCENIC AREA AND FEDERAL LAND.**—

(1) A Highly Scenic Area is—

(A) an offshore area;

(B) any area listed as an official United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site, as supported by the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, and the International Council on Monuments and Sites;

(C) any area nominated by the Department of the Interior and the Federal Interagency Panel for World Heritage to become an official United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site; or

(D) any Armed Forces base located in the United States.

(2) A Qualified Wind Project is any above-water wind-turbine project located in a Highly Scenic Area or within 20 miles of the boundaries of an area described in subparagraph (B), (C), or (D) of paragraph (1).

(3) Prior to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issuing to a Qualified Wind Project its Exempt-Wholesale Generator Status, Market-Based Rate Authority, or Qualified Facility rate schedule, an environmental impact statement shall be conducted and completed by the lead agency in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). If no lead agency is designated, the lead agency shall be the Department of the Interior.

(4) The environmental impact statement determination shall be issued within 12 months of the date of application.

(5) Such environmental impact statement review shall include a cumulative impacts analysis addressing visual impacts and avian mortality analysis of a Qualified Wind Project.

(6) A Qualified Wind Project shall not be eligible for any Federal tax credit.

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

(1) This section shall expire 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prevent or discourage environmental review of any wind projects or any Qualified Wind Project on a State or local level.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1035. A bill to authorize the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United

States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, during World War I and II, Native Americans heard the call of their Country and enlisted in the United States Armed Services in unprecedented numbers. Many of these brave men performed the role of code talkers, using a code language derived from a variety of American Indian languages to ensure secure and rapid communication of information on the battlefield. Through three wars and five decades, enemy forces were never able to break the United States code language thanks to the service and ingenuity of Native American Code Talkers. These patriots provided an invaluable service to the United States and our allies and deserve recognition for their bravery.

Until 1968, information related to the code talker's activities during both World Wars remained classified by the Department of Defense. The postponement in learning about the essential role of Native American Code Talkers has resulted in delayed recognition of these war heroes. The first step in recognizing these men came in 2000 when President Bush signed into law legislation authorizing Congress to award gold medals to the twenty-nine Navajo Code Talkers as well as a silver medal to each man who later qualified as a Navajo Code Talker. While this legislation was a step in the right direction, it failed to recognize a number of Native Americans who also served as code talkers but were not members of the Navajo Nation.

During the first World War, Choctaw code talkers served with distinction in France. By transmitting in their native tongue a variety of open voice messages relating to unit movements, United States forces completely surprised the enemy during battle. Following the success of the Choctaw code talkers, soldiers from the Navajo, Sioux, Comanche and Meskwaki tribes, along with members of 14 other tribes, served as code talkers in some of the most dangerous operations in both theaters of World War II.

Today I introduce the Code Talkers Recognition Act to honor those who were overlooked when medals were awarded to the Navajo Code Talkers in 2001. This bill authorizes the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during any foreign conflict in which the United States was involved during the 20th Century. I ask my colleagues to help honor the heroic contributions of these gentlemen by cosponsoring this bill.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, May 13, 2005 at 9:30



a.m. in closed session to mark up the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak in morning business for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I thank the Senator from Oklahoma for assuming the Chair, and I congratulate him for the progress on the highway bill. He has been working on the bill ever since I have been in the Senate. It looks like it is ready to be passed.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mr. Alexander pertaining to the introduction of S. 1034 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 16, 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 16. I further ask consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 3, the highway bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on Monday the Senate will resume consideration of the highway bill. As a reminder, we reached an agreement last night that limits the final list of amendments in order prior to passage. Those amendments also must be offered no later than 4 p.m. on Monday afternoon. Senators who have amendments on the list should make themselves available to come to the floor Monday afternoon in order to get their amendments pending. We will also have at least one rollcall vote Monday,

beginning at 5:30 p.m. That vote will be in relation to an amendment on the highway bill, and it is possible we will stack another amendment for a vote to follow the 5:30 vote.

I do thank the chairman and ranking member, who have been here throughout the week working through amendments and moving this important legislation forward. Thanks to their efforts, we were able to establish a roadmap that will allow us to move to passage of the bill on Tuesday of next week.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 16, 2005, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:42 a.m., adjourned until Monday, May 16, 2005, at 2 p.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate May 13, 2005:

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAMES B. LETTEN, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE EDDIE J. JORDAN, JR., RESIGNED.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2317, THE CREDIT UNION REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS ACT

#### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2317, the Credit Union Regulatory Improvements Act, commonly known as CURIA, of which I am a proud original cosponsor.

As I have noted many times in many ways, our Nation's credit unions provide a truly invaluable service to their approximately 84 million members throughout our country, including over 742,000 members in my Hawai'i alone. Where other financial institutions are unable or unwilling to do business as and when desired by consumers, credit unions have prospered by offering fair, convenient and relevant financing. In doing so, they are one of the key linchpins binding together the economic and social life of so many of our communities, including those of non-urban and rural America.

Let me provide you with just one example from my own district: the southern portion of my home Island of Hawai'i. Small rural and agricultural-based communities are dispersed throughout this low population density region, which thus does not lend itself to traditional urban-focused banking.

Instead, the main branch of Ka'u Federal Credit Union, known as the southernmost credit union in the United States, is located in the small town of Na'alehu and provides its residents with highly personal and tailored services. But Ka'u FCU has taken its service a step further and added two additional branches in nearby communities—one in Ocean View and the other in Pahala—each located in a local grocery store and no bigger than the size of a small car.

Of course, credit unions are prospering in urban and suburban areas of our country and my Hawai'i as well. This is because they all share the characteristics of highly personal, member-invested services. They are thus clearly a great success story throughout our entire country.

Support for our credit unions should thus be one of our key goals. Here in Congress, one of the best ways to do so is to support this bipartisan legislation.

H.R. 2317 contains three major sections, which, as outlined below, will modernize credit union net worth standards, advance credit union efforts to promote economic growth, and make several needed modifications to credit union activities, governance, and oversight.

According to the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), the independent federal agency that charters and supervises federal credit unions, modifications to the Prompt Correction Action (PCA) system are needed to ensure that the standards are "aptly robust" and "not unduly burdensome or constraining."

This legislation would revise thresholds for PCA net worth categories for credit unions to new net worth ratio thresholds that are comparable to those used by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) for the leverage requirement.

H.R. 2317 would also provide a much-needed update to the definition of net worth in the Federal Credit Union Act for purposes of credit union mergers. The Financial Accounting Standards Board has proposed eliminating the pooling accounting method for mergers and requiring all credit union mergers to apply the purchase method after 2006. Under the purchase method of accounting, only the surviving credit union's retained earnings count as net worth for PCA purposes. This legislation codifies that recommendation.

Finally, CURIA will update and modernize a number of specific outdated regulatory burdens and make other necessary changes to the credit union regulatory system, including improving credit union leasing arrangements on federal land, permitting limited investments in securities, reforming credit union governance, and altering credit union conversion voting requirements.

Mr. Speaker, I commend both the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KANJORSKI) for once again spearheading CURIA. I look forward to working with them and my other cosponsors in supporting this vital initiative.

### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, "It should not be forgotten even for a moment that Israel's security problem is quite unlike that of any other country. This is no problem of borders or sovereignty, but a problem of physical survival, in the literal meaning of the term. And it is a question of the survival not only of the people of Israel but of the Jewish people the world over."

These words were spoken in 1960 by former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, who led the struggle to create Israel.

More than 4 decades have passed since these words were spoken, but they have the same profound impact on us as Jews today as when they were first uttered. Today I express my solidarity with Israel as it celebrates the 57th anniversary of its founding.

As a Member of Congress, I stand with Israel and express my solidarity and support for the State of Israel during these most troubling of times.

We must remember that any legitimate peace process must insist that the Palestinians bring an immediate end to acts of terrorism.

Israel is fully committed to pursuing negotiated agreements with her Arab neighbors so

that it may finally live in peace and security. Israel reached historic peace agreements with Egypt and Jordan in which both sides made serious compromises for the sake of normalized relations. Through its democratic system, the Israeli electorate has voted out governments they believe have not done enough to pursue peace, just as they have voted out governments they believe have not done enough to promote their security.

The Palestinian campaign of terrorism and violence has caused even those Israelis most supportive of the peace process to question the Palestinian Authority's suitability as a negotiating partner and its commitment to peaceful reconciliation with Israel. Israel has demonstrated time and again its sincere desire for peace and its readiness to make the difficult decisions required for peace, as it begins its withdrawal from the Gaza strip and parts of the West Bank.

I hope that the new Palestinian government elected by the Palestinian people will move quickly and make the tough choices necessary for a lasting peace.

### CONGRATULATING KERRY AMBROSE

#### HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Ms. Kerry Ambrose has been in Bolivia for the past year as a volunteer with the Peace Corps. Ms. Ambrose is following the footsteps of over 178,000 Americans who have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 138 countries over the past 44 years. Kerry is doing extraordinary work in her village and I commend her dedication and service to improve the lives of others. I would like to share with you her editorial submitted to my local newspaper, The Delaware County Times.

[From the Delaware County (PA) Times,  
Apr. 3, 2005]

### OPINION: SERVING PEACE CORPS MEANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

(By PCV Kerry Ambrose)

I live in a small pueblo in Bolivia. My house has running water but no shower so we bathe via buckets. I consider myself lucky, though, as some of my friends only have water for a few hours a day, if that.

The family I live with sells chickens. I see the chickens before they are killed. I also watch the grandmother of my house wash piles of chicken claws in a bucket in order to make her delicacy—chicken foot soup.

My family hand-washes its clothes every other day. I still have not mastered the art completely and often the children laugh good-naturedly. My family happens to have a TV in one of its rooms. Most families do not. Most families have a small room that serves as the living room, bedroom, and kitchen. Oftentimes the floor is packed dirt and the roof is thatched.

My favorite part of my day is after waking up. I heat water on our stove and make

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

mate, a type of tea served here. My favorites are manzanilla, which is chamomile, as well as cocoa leaf mate, which is supposedly good for the stomach.

I sit on the steps of our house in the chill morning light with the steaming hot cup of mate in my hands as I look out on into the distance. I live in the altiplano, which is a flat plain above the tree line. It stretches for miles in all directions and looks like a vast sea of earth striving to meet the unreachable horizon.

The wind is harsh as there is no protection from it and for the most part the soil is rocky and hard. Many of the people here depend on the mines, but there are also farmers and herders. All are difficult livelihoods in such an unforgiving place. The altiplano, though, has a stark and desolate beauty to it that creeps in to haunt the soul. It's untouched in many places and is wild and untamed in a way that I imagine the prairie lands of the U.S. were before the settlers.

I am a volunteer in the Peace Corps, which is why I am living here. I mainly work in the schools teaching environmental education and health classes. This year though I am also helping teach physical education from kindergarten through sixth and am hoping to start a basketball intramural league and maybe an art mural club.

The children are so motivated. Everyday I look into their bright eager eyes and smiling faces and cannot help but become inundated with love. I have so much hope for all these children, these brilliant minds waiting to blossom, but I know that the people of this town, this country, are poor. Many of the girls see no future beyond having seven or eight children to help with the farm work, the mortality rate here is as high as almost 50 percent in some areas so the birth of many children guarantees the survival of a few.

The streets of the cities are not lined with gold, but rather with funeral parlors displaying miniature coffins. My heart breaks knowing some of these children I see will go on to sniff glue, become alcoholics, and abuse their wives because these are the examples they know and see. I am determined to help in what little way I can to instill a sense of self-esteem. They may be poor in material objects, but they are not poor in spirit.

I have been here already for a year. Peace Corps volunteers make the commitment to serve for 27 months. When the tragedy of Sept. 11 happened, I personally made the decision to join after I finished college. Many people of the world view America with contempt. I wanted to do what I could to make the most out of the privileges my citizenship automatically bestowed upon me.

I came to Bolivia with idealistic notions that I could somehow change the world. I still hope to make a difference each day I walk hand in hand with a small child looking up at me with eyes so wide. However, I have been humbled in that I realize by simply living here I have learned more this past year about myself, people, and the world than I could have possibly envisioned or ever repay, although I intend to try.

Kerry Ambrose is the daughter of Pamela Ambrose and Gary Pattinson, and a graduate of Gamet Valley High School. She was sworn in as a Peace Corps volunteer on April 7, 2004. Learn more about this organization by visiting [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov) or if interested in donating supplies for a future project or school, contact Kerry at [ambrose81@comcast.net](mailto:ambrose81@comcast.net)

## RECOGNIZING MR. PETER H. COTE

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Mr. Peter H. Cote will retire from his post as civilian Farrier, after 35 years of faithful and dedicated service to the nation.

Mr. Cote graduated from Woodbridge Senior High School in Virginia in 1967. He then attended the Martinsville Farrier School until he was drafted by the U.S. Army in March 1969 as a Heavy Artilleryman. Mr. Cote's military career includes positions in Germany, Walter Reed and Fort Myer. He was discharged from the U.S. Army on March 1, 1971, and was hired by Walter Reed as the Military District of Washington civilian Blacksmith/Farrier.

Mr. Cote received his Master Farrier Qualification from the Brotherhood of Working Farriers. He is certified as an Equine Appraiser, equine emergency rescuer, equine adjuster and an inspector of American Trail Rides. Mr. Cote has trained 165 personnel in the art of Farriery. He also has participated in the state funerals for President Johnson and President Reagan. Additionally, he has been the head Farrier for nine Presidential Inaugurals.

Mr. Cote's many honors and awards include the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and numerous Exceptional Performance Appraisals. He also was named "The Nation's Farrier" in 1999 by The American Farrier Journal.

I know my colleagues in the House will join me in thanking Mr. Cote for his many years of service to his country and in wishing him all the best in the years to come.

## IN HONOR OF ALBERTA HENRY

### HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the late Mrs. Alberta Henry, a long-time resident of Utah.

Mrs. Henry was a civil-rights activist and educator devoted to providing educational opportunities for all children. Her accomplishments and hard work have been recognized by many including President Richard Nixon, the University of Utah, and the Salt Lake Council of Women's Hall of Fame.

Since being elected to Congress, I have been impressed with Mrs. Henry's efforts to improve her community, and ability to overcome all obstacles that stand in her way. Mrs. Henry has been involved in many organizations, including Utah State Advisory Committee to the U.S. commission on Civil Rights, the United Way, Utah Endowment for the Humanities, and the Black Advisory Board to the University of Utah. She also served as president of the NAACP's Salt Lake Branch for 12 years.

Mrs. Henry's passion for education began early on as a young student in Kansas. Her mother encouraged her to get an education, and became a driving force in her love for learning. After moving to Utah, she worked for the Head Start Day Care and was the first African-American employee at the Salt Lake

School District. She is also the founder of the Alberta Henry Education Foundation which has helped hundreds of underprivileged students pay for college.

Mrs. Henry's work is invaluable and her steadfastness is respected. She will be missed by her family, friends, and the community as a whole.

## ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE

### HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the modern day state of Israel on its 57th birthday. In 1948, facing overwhelming odds, Jews living in their historic homeland, survivors of the Holocaust and refugees from around the world stood in a small room in Tel Aviv to announce the creation of the Jewish state. In the shadow of the murderous genocide of the Holocaust, the State of Israel was created so that Jews around the world would always have safe refuge from oppression and annihilation.

On May 14, 1948, years of Zionists' dreams culminated at this historic moment as David Ben Gurion announced to the world that once again Israel was to be a free and independent state. Founded on principles of freedom and democracy, the new state of Israel was quickly recognized by the United States as a welcome ally in the Middle East. Unfortunately, within hours of this historic declaration, the neighboring Arab nations attacked and sent Israel into its first war as an independent nation. Despite conventional wisdom, and to the great surprise of many around the world, Israel survived the attack, but at a heavy cost to the young nation.

Today, Israel is a thriving democracy and one of the United States' strongest allies in our War on Terror. Israel has demonstrated to the world that democracy can thrive in the Middle East and that freedom of religion, freedom of the press and basic human rights can work in a region that is otherwise dominated by terror and oppression. Israel, with a free market economy and a commitment to human rights, serves as an inspiration for other nations and new democracies struggling to take hold in the Middle East.

I stand today to congratulate Israel on its strong dedication to freedom and democracy throughout its 57 years of existence. I look forward to strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship and continuing to celebrate Israel's independence in years to come.

## EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PEARL HARBOR MEMORIAL FUND AND THE ARIZONA MEMORIAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the continued efforts of my colleagues, our federal administration, and all Americans toward long-overdue and essential reconstruction of the USS Arizona Memorial Visitors Center at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i.

Nobody can dispute that one of the seminal moments in American history occurred on December 7, 1941, when the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked our country's Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor. It was a dark and tragic day for all Americans. Yet, in the unity, determination and fortitude of our response, we saw the rekindling of a devout patriotism, and we came together to overcome one of our greatest challenges with simple integrity and willing sacrifice.

The events at Pearl Harbor on that day and in early WWII in the Pacific have been viewed through many lenses. "Remember Pearl Harbor" has become a rallying cry each time our nation ventures forth in furtherance of liberty throughout the world. We have remembered of that day and subsequent events that our brave service men and women and our civilian population proudly accepted whatever burden was asked of them to ensure that our way of life would survive, endure, and finally succeed. We have recalled our demonstration that no other nation, no matter how menacing, could withstand our determination to fight for human betterment and humane values. We have reaffirmed our demonstration of the power of a nation governed by the will of its people, based on the rule of law, and extolling the value of equality and endowed rights.

Yet what a high price was paid for all this, for the results of December 7th were nothing short of carnage. Six military sites on Oahu were attacked, killing over 2,400 Americans. Over 320 aircraft were destroyed or damaged; over 21 vessels were sunk or damaged. Leaking fuel ablaze hampered rescue operations and threatened undamaged ships. Extraordinary and heroic efforts enabled many to survive the onslaught, but of those fortunate to survive many bore their scars for life.

The Pearl Harbor attack acted as a catalyst in bringing us fully and actively into World War II and served as a rallying cry to unify our country. And because the USS *Arizona* accounted for almost half of those casualties, it has become the central symbol of our commemoration. In the words of one writer, "because of her significance . . . the *Arizona* is much more than a sunken ship; she is a national icon."

In the 1950s, the Territory of Hawai'i (which in 1959 proudly became the 50th state of our union) along with our federal government and others spearheaded an effort to create a monument to the USS *Arizona* and to the many events and individuals related to the attack on Pearl Harbor. The result, through the combined efforts of public funds and private enterprise, was the building of the USS *Arizona* Memorial in the early 1960s. This graceful and moving tribute, seemingly afloat over the *Arizona* and the remains contained within of most of her crew, has come to memorialize perfectly the lessons of Pearl Harbor.

The Memorial has therefore been indispensable to our nation's ability to learn and benefit from the events of December 7, 1941. The memorial itself enhanced and extended the impact of the Pearl Harbor attack into the collective American consciousness. As one newspaper reported, ". . . its tenth anniversary in 1951 barely rated a mention in the newspaper of the day. But in 1961 came the dedication of the USS *Arizona* Memorial . . .

and the observances of the U.S. entry into WWII became significant."

In the 1960s and 1970s, the appeal of visits to the USS *Arizona* Memorial continued to increase. More and more visitors arrived on the shores of Pearl Harbor to ferry the short distance to the Memorial. The numbers rose rapidly and it was soon apparent that a shoreside facility and an organizational responsibility were needed for the safety, security, guidance, and accommodation of the thousands of people lining up to view and pay homage to the Memorial and what it stood for. Branch 46 of the Fleet Reserve Association in Honolulu, a group that had been active in establishing the Memorial itself, once again moved to the forefront of making the visitor experience what it should be by making capital improvements on the shore side as well as at the Memorial. Plans were designed for the construction of the USS *Arizona* Memorial Visitor Center at Pearl Harbor.

An *Arizona* Memorial Foundation was founded to raise consciousness and funds for the new facilities. It became the *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association, a non-profit entity, in 1979. Once again, the State of Hawai'i, federal government, U.S. Navy, Fleet Reserve Association and *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association provided the funds necessary to complete the building. I want to make special mention of my esteemed colleague, the senior U.S. Senator from Hawai'i, DANIEL K. INOUE, who was instrumental in getting this project off the ground.

By any measure, the Visitor Center at the USS *Arizona* Memorial, today administered by the National Park Service, has been a remarkable success. Over 1.5 million people visit the Memorial annually, twice that projected by the original designers and builders.

So significant is the desire to visit the USS *Arizona* Memorial and visitors center that visitors often begin to line up as early as 5:00 AM. In some cases, visitors must wait 2-3 hours just to board the U.S. Navy launch that takes them to the Memorial.

The *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association and the National Park Service have worked together to provide special and general educational and interpretive programs for everyone. Such programs include Witness to History, which matches events and firsthand observers of the events such as Pearl Harbor survivors with students, historians, and schoolchildren in interactive learning sessions on site and through videoconferencing. Pearl Harbor survivors, National Park Service personnel, and others are available to travel to schools and community associations to participate in interactive educational sessions.

To provide additional space for programs and people, the *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association and the National Park Service started, in 2001, to plan an extension to the present building. Structural engineers and designers were consulted as to what building options were available. Much to the disappointment of the planners, the engineers advised that the current building was settling at a high rate and that its useful life was only an additional 5-9 years.

This knowledge, while initially disappointing, led to the inevitable conclusion that a new

structure must be built. This new facility would better accommodate the thousands of visitors and provide for the proper display of many more artifacts and items currently being sent to storage, as well as meet a National Park Service engineering specification requirement that associated structures have a projected life of at least 50 years.

A detailed plan has therefore been completed for the replacement of the Museum and Visitor Center through the joint efforts of the U.S. Navy and the National Park Service. The primary components of the planned Museum and Visitor Center plan are:

An enlarged and enclosed state-of-the-art museum; An outdoor amphitheater; Updated Memorial orientation theaters; An education center with a library and a videoconferencing facility; Expanded and improved visitor comfort areas including suitable rest rooms; A larger bookstore.

For its part, the *Arizona* Memorial Museum Association has stepped forward still again to undertake a national public/private program to raise the funds necessary to pay for the construction, endowment, and interpretive requirements of the replacement facility.

Mr. Speaker, the USS *Arizona* Memorial is a place of the spirit. It exudes solemnity and dignity. People assume prayerful postures and hushed tones as they embark on its landing dock.

The depth of their experience is heightened by the interpretive and educational shoreside activities at the Museum and Visitor Center. It is there that the facts and artifacts, the audio-visual aids and the human interaction, the films and the charts, prepare them with knowledge and perspective for the moments that they will spend searching among the heroes' names, the ship's image, the oily surface, and the haunting environs of the Memorial. The Museum and Visitor Center have themselves become intertwined in the full meaning of a visit to the USS *Arizona* Memorial. Neither stands alone; together, they are a mighty symbol of the strength, unity, and hope of our nation.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers to support the construction of this new visitors center. And, in doing so, I hope and pray that the USS *Arizona* Memorial, a national icon, becomes even more imbedded in our national consciousness as a source of inspiration, understanding, and honor for current and future generations.

Mahalo (thank you), and aloha.

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#### INTRODUCTION OF THE "AERONAUTICS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2005"

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing the "Aeronautics Research

and Development Act of 2005". I am pleased to be joined in this initiative by the following cosponsors of this legislation: Representative JOHN LARSON, who submitted legislation on this topic in the 108th Congress that has provided a solid foundation for my bill; Representative JO ANN DAVIS, Representative GORDON, Representative KUCINICH, and Representative BOBBY SCOTT. We would welcome additional Members joining us as sponsors once they have had a chance to review the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, progress in aeronautics is crucial to the health of the Nation's air transportation industry, which in turn is crucial both to the continued strength of our domestic economy and to our international competitiveness. In addition, aeronautical goods and services have long provided a major positive input to our balance of trade.

Yet progress in aeronautics is important for reasons beyond the health of our trade balance. Aeronautics R&D can enable advances in the capability of our nation's air transportation system to handle the enormous increases in air travel projected over the next twenty years. Aeronautics R&D can enable more environmentally compatible commercial aircraft, with significantly lower noise, emissions, and energy consumption compared to aircraft in commercial service today. Such new aircraft would not only improve the quality of life but would also open new markets. Aeronautics R&D can also enable new markets and services through the development of technologies that will allow supersonic commercial aircraft to fly over populated areas with no adverse environmental impacts, as well as the development of technologies that will greatly increase the capabilities of rotorcraft and other runway-independent air vehicles to serve civil needs. Finally, aeronautics R&D can lead to new concepts for protecting our Nation.

However, all of the new capabilities that I have described will only be possible if this Nation is committed to making the investments in aeronautics R&D that are necessary to achieve those goals. The unfortunate reality is that America currently is not investing enough in NASA's aeronautics program. Moreover, if nothing is done to correct the situation, NASA's aeronautics program is scheduled to suffer additional cuts over the next five years, cuts that will jeopardize the very foundations of our national aeronautics R&D capabilities.

You don't have to take my word for it—there have been a series of reports by independent committees over the last few years that have expressed deep concern over the state of the U.S. aeronautics R&D enterprise. In addition, the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, on which I am privileged to serve as Ranking Member, held a hearing on March 16th of this year at which all of the distinguished non-governmental witnesses expressed the view that aeronautics is at risk in the U.S. That hearing also highlighted the seriousness with which Europe is approaching future investments in aeronautical R&D. The European governments have made it clear that Europe seeks to become the world leader in aeronautics technology by 2020.

Yet it doesn't have to be that way. It's not inevitable that our national commitment to cutting-edge aeronautics R&D has to decline. We can have an exciting, robust NASA aeronautics program that meets important national needs. We just need to do two things: provide a clear direction for NASA's aeronautics activi-

ties and provide the resources necessary for NASA to maintain a world-class aeronautics R&D enterprise.

That is the intent of the bill that I am introducing today: the "Aeronautics Research and Development Revitalization Act of 2005".

This Act contains a number of important provisions. First, it states clearly and unambiguously that: "It shall be the policy of the United States to reaffirm the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 and its identification of aeronautical research and development as a core mission of NASA. Further, it shall be the policy of the United States to promote aeronautical research and development that will expand the capacity, ensure the safety, and increase the efficiency of the Nation's air transportation system, promote the security of the Nation, protect the environment, and retain the leadership of the United States in global aviation." The bill starts with this policy statement because I believe that it is critically important that we have a national policy for aeronautics research and development—one that recognizes the importance of aeronautics R&D and gives some guidance for the conduct of that research.

The bill next establishes three "break-through" R&D initiatives in subsonic, supersonic, and rotorcraft and other runway-independent air vehicle aeronautics. The intent is to set some challenging R&D goals that will push the state of the art across a range of aeronautical science and engineering disciplines as well as deliver technologies that will change existing air transportation paradigms and help open new markets in an environmentally responsible manner.

The third Title of the bill focuses on ensuring the overall health of the nation's aeronautics research enterprise. To that end, it re-establishes a fundamental research and technology program within NASA that is not tied to specific development projects. NASA used to have such a program, and I believe that, properly managed, it can provide the foundation on which future progress in aeronautics will be based.

I also wanted to ensure that NASA maintains its involvement in Aerospace Systems research and Aviation Safety and Security research, because I believe those are crucial to the development of a safe and efficient national air transportation system. At the same time, I want to make sure that NASA's efforts are appropriately aligned with the plans and objectives of the Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO)—the interagency office that has responsibility for developing the next generation air transportation system. It is essential that the JPDO succeed, and I believe that NASA's research can play an important role in ensuring its success.

Next, I have included a provision that clearly defines a policy for the operation of NASA's aeronautical test facilities. As was noted at the recent Subcommittee hearing on aeronautics, NASA's full cost recovery policy has had a ruinous effect on the maintenance of its test facilities, and decisions to shut facilities down are being made for budgetary reasons instead of first addressing whether the facilities have strategic importance. This bill would undo that unwise policy.

The bill also highlights a number of other research areas that should be supported. These include hypersonics, a research area in which some exciting accomplishments have been

made over the last several years that offer promise of significant future advances. In addition, the bill establishes speculative research initiatives to develop and test concepts for a zero emissions aircraft and an uncrewed aircraft that could operate in the atmosphere of Mars. These are research initiatives that could help excite the next generation of aeronautics professionals if properly structured to allow significant involvement by the university research community.

With respect to that next generation, the bill recognizes the need to get more American students to pursue studies in aeronautical engineering. To that end, the bill establishes a program of graduate scholarships to encourage students to pursue aeronautical engineering careers.

Finally, we come to the question of funding the programs contained in this bill. While some would argue that we need to double the aeronautics budget immediately if we are to reverse the negative trends in the state of U.S. aeronautics R&D, I do not believe that such an increase is possible in the current fiscal environment. In addition, I do not believe it is necessary over the short term. Instead, I believe that the highest priority is to refocus and strengthen NASA's approach to aeronautics R&D by a combination of challenging R&D projects and wise stewardship of its workforce and facilities. A budget that returns NASA to its FY 2004 aeronautics funding level of \$1.057 billion for FY 2006 and provides modest annual increases over the next five years will do much to put NASA on a path that will allow it to put its aeronautics house in order and position it for a highly productive future.

Mr. Speaker, aeronautics R&D is important to the nation. NASA's aeronautics program has long been the centerpiece of those research efforts. We need keep NASA's aeronautics activities healthy and productive. I believe that the Aeronautics Research and Development Revitalization Act of 2005 can help strengthen the Nation's aeronautics R&D enterprise, and I hope that it will receive early consideration by this body.

#### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 57 years since the founding of the State of Israel. This momentous occasion is not only a day of joy for the people of Israel but for those that cherish freedom and democracy across the world.

The founding of the State of Israel was a miraculous event. In a period of time when the persecution of Jews ran rampant across Europe, Zionist visionaries saw the great need to establish a Jewish State. Theodore Herzl while a reporter on the Dreyfus Affair in France recognized the hostility that existed against Jews and against all odds began to successfully garner support for his idea of a Jewish State.

Mr. Speaker, we all know what the State of Israel has become since those uncertain times. Jews across the globe who were persecuted, be it in Yemen, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran or the Soviet Union were able to turn to their

Jewish brethren in the State of Israel to taste freedom and freely practice their faith. The State of Israel aside from being a thriving metropolis with a vibrant economy has become the central location for the study of Judaism and its holy texts.

Since its inception Israel has been fighting a war of terrorism perpetuated against it. I have been pleased throughout my tenure in Congress to stand strongly with the State of Israel in their struggle against terrorism and will continue to do so. We must recognize our allies in the Middle East. Israel has continuously stood with the United States and our interests and I hope that our close relationship will continue to be strengthened as we work to promote our shared values.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding leadership of The Consul General in New York, Arye Mekel, for his dedication to bridging the communities of Israel and New York. Additionally, the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York has worked tirelessly to advocate on the behalf of the State of Israel and the New York Jewish Community and I would like to thank them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues here today in congratulating the State of Israel on their Independence and look forward to the alliance between our two countries to continue to grow.

OFFERING CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THE STATE OF ISRAEL ON ITS  
57TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

**HON. TIM HOLDEN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the people of the State of Israel on the celebration of the 57th anniversary of its founding. Known in Hebrew as Yom Ha'atzmaut, this special day marks the historic date in 1948 on which the British Mandate over Palestine expired and the State of Israel was proclaimed.

Each year, this celebration comes on the heels of Yom Ha'zikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, when the nation expresses its eternal debt and gratitude to the more than 20,000 soldiers who gave their lives to secure the country's independence and defend its continued existence.

Israel and the United States have shared a special bond since the founding of the modern Jewish State in 1948. The United States was the first country to recognize Israel, only 11 minutes after it was officially created. Since then, our two countries have developed a rock-solid friendship that does not depend on the parties in power either in Washington or Jerusalem. Over the past half-century, bipartisan support for Israel has been a staple of every Congress regardless of which party is in the majority and which in the minority.

Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, a region dominated by authoritarian and military regimes. Our two nations share the fundamental principles of freedom and equality. Both were established by immigrants, who sought freedom from oppression. Both stand as symbols of liberty and pluralism in a world

still marked by authoritarianism and intolerance. Both have provided safe havens for oppressed people from all parts of the globe and both are rooted in the unshakable tenets of democracy, human dignity, individual rights, and religious freedom.

Once again Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer my sincere congratulations to the people of Israel on this joyous occasion.

ISRAEL'S 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
INDEPENDENCE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me today to honor the nation of Israel on its 57th birthday. On May 14, 1948—the fifth day of Iyar, 5708 under the Jewish calendar—after years without a national homeland, the Jewish people established a new country. As Israelis celebrate their country's 57th anniversary, the international community is celebrating with them 50 years of independence.

In the 30th Congressional District of Texas, the Dallas Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Dallas, DFW International, Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas & the Rabbinic Association of Greater Dallas and other organizations have scheduled a series of events to commemorate this occasion.

As someone with a great interest in Israel, Middle Eastern affairs and world peace, I believe that the political transformations in this region during the past few years have been dramatic. We have come a long way, despite attempts by extreme factions to harm Israel and the cause of peace in the region.

I would like to quote an excerpt from Israel's 'declaration of independence,' published 57 years ago as the British mandate over the area drew to an end: 'We extend our hand in peace and neighborliness to all the neighboring states and their peoples, and invite them to cooperate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all.'

It is in that spirit, and with that faith, that I will continue to work with the administration to ensure the United States remains firm in its commitment to the security of Israel and to those principles necessary to guarantee the success of the Arab-Israeli peace process.

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today marks Israel Independence Day, the 57th anniversary of the founding of Israel. This is a time to recognize a strong, stable, and democratic nation, as well as a loyal ally. The fact that Israel is a thriving country carries significant meaning not only in the Middle East, but also throughout the world. In a short time, Israel has established itself as a rich cultural destination and a center for Jewish beliefs and practices. This is largely because the people of Israel have been car-

rying on their traditions for thousands of years. In spite of its enemies, Israel has continued to grow, inspiring democracy and independence in the region.

When I first visited Israel, I immediately noticed the resilience that showed itself in so many ways. Despite the nearly constant danger, Israelis go about their daily lives without fear. Shopkeepers kept their businesses running, even after their storefronts had been destroyed by terrorist bombings. Worshipers maintained their schedule of religious services, defiant to any threats to their safety. Students packed classrooms during the day, eager to learn about Israel's history. They made it a point to get out and experience that freedom, not letting any scare tactics ruin their lives or dash their hopes for peace. We could all take a lesson from their enthusiasm, their zest for life, and their courage.

Israel continues to serve as a beacon of democracy in the Middle East. The Israeli people have an unrivaled appreciation for their freedoms. You can see it in the public displays of their strong Jewish faith. You will hear it as you walk down the streets, vibrant with markets, artisans, and music. You know it by their involvement in the political process, with each vote regarded as a privilege that their leaders must earn. Their patriotism is evident, and not just on Israel Independence Day, but during the entire year.

For this year's celebration, I want to commend Israel for standing strong in the face of opposition. While there is a lot of work to be done to foster lasting peace in the region, they have much to be proud of. The United States must maintain its support of Israel, especially at this crucial time in history. We have a real chance not only to aid Israel in establishing peace within its own borders, but also to help them set an example of democracy for other countries. It is certain that Israel will have many more Independence Days to look forward to in the future.

HONORING THE 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the people of Israel in celebrating the 57th Anniversary of Israel's Independence.

As Israel's Declaration of Independence states, "The land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people" and on May 14, 1948, the land of their ancestors was returned to the Jewish people.

Shortly after Israel declared its independence, President Harry Truman began what has led to a strong partnership between our two countries by recognizing the provisional Jewish government as de facto authority of the new Jewish state.

Today, 57 years after declaring its independence, Israel and the United States continue to share the common values and ideals of advancing democracy and promoting human rights around the globe. As our strongest ally in fighting terrorism, Israel, a country which has had to fight against terrorism and attacks from its neighbors for its entire existence, continues to play a vital role in promoting American interests.



In return, we must continue to help Israel in its struggle for security by helping reach a lasting peace with its neighbors so that as future generations celebrate this day, they may do so without fear of the violence that has plagued the Jewish state since its independence.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege to visit Israel on several occasions, and have seen the struggles Israelis face daily. However, I have also seen their perseverance and determination to create a peaceful and prosperous state.

In the short but rich history of the Jewish state, the Israeli people have created one of the strongest democracies in the world, renowned for their scientific, technological, medical and agricultural innovations. Their commitment to promoting human rights, to protecting the rule of law, and to open and fair elections is unparalleled in the region and is an inspiration to oppressed people around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I would again like to congratulate the Israeli people and join them in celebrating the 57th Anniversary of Israel's independence, and look forward to working with them for years to come.

#### FREEDOM FOR IVÁN HERNÁNDEZ CARRILLO

#### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Iván Hernández Carrillo, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Hernández Carrillo is a member of the Pedro Luis Boitel Democracy Party and an independent journalist. He is peacefully striving to create an open society that recognizes human rights, freedom, and democracy. Unfortunately, the dictatorship forcefully represses those who bravely support freedom and rise in resistance to the despotic regime.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Hernández Carrillo has been constantly harassed by the nightmare that is the Castro regime. He was arrested by the tyrant in 1997, 1999, and 2002 for his pro-democracy activities. Unfortunately, on March 18, 2003, as part of Castro's heinous crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mr. Hernández Carrillo was once again arrested by the dictatorship. In a sham trial, Mr. Hernández Carrillo was sentenced to an abominable 25 years in the totalitarian gulag.

According to Amnesty International, in 2003, while incarcerated in the inhuman gulag, Mr. Hernández Carrillo was placed in a punishment cell. These punishment cells are the very depths of depravity. According to the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2004: "punishment cells, were located in the basement of a prison, with continuous semi dark conditions, no available water, and a hole for a toilet. Reading materials, including Bibles, were not allowed. . . . Prisoners in punishment cells had no access to lawyers."

In 2004, according to Amnesty International, Mr. Hernández Carrillo supported his fellow pro-democracy fighter Mario Enrique Mayo in a hunger strike that lasted from August 15th

until August 25th. Their demands were medical assistance and food.

Mr. Hernández Carrillo is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. Despite incessant repression, harassment, incarceration and abuse, he does not waiver in his conviction that freedom and democracy are the inalienable right of the Cuban people. It is a crime against humanity that Castro's totalitarian gulags are full of men and women, like Mr. Hernández Carrillo, who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, let me be very clear, Mr. Hernández Carrillo is languishing in the grotesque squalor of the gulag because he desires freedom for all Cubans. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Iván Hernández Carrillo and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

#### IN HONOR OF THE ACADEMY OF LIFELONG LEARNING'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Academy of Lifelong Learning on their 25th Anniversary. This continuing education program at the University of Delaware allows people over 50 to continue to pursue a wide variety of academic offerings. Recent classes have included Sports History, Yoga Philosophy, and Computer Management. For 25 years, the Academy's membership has been involved in every facet of the educational process. Members also plan, organize, and even teach many of these courses.

To mark its 25th anniversary, the Academy has planned the Hi Ho Silver Jubilee at the University of Delaware. The event will be highlighted by a performance of the 50-piece Academy Band and the 75-member Academy Chorus. From its original 83 members and 18 courses, the Academy has grown to over 2,000 members who can choose from over 200 courses. This remarkable growth can be directly attributed to the dedication and hard work of the Academy's original membership.

As stated in the 1998 mission statement of the council, the Academy of Lifelong Learning seeks to, "be a premier educational program composed of a diverse membership of people 50 and older who come together and are intellectually, culturally, and socially stimulated in an academic atmosphere. Through its programs, the Academy enhances, enriches, and extends the quality of life of its members." After 25 years of outstanding work, the Academy of Lifelong Learning continues to achieve its goal.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the Academy and look forward to celebrating their future accomplishments.

#### PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON YALTA—AMNESIA OR DISTORTION?

#### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, these days of early May mark the 60th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany.

Last week, as we observed the days of remembrance for those who perished in the Holocaust, I noted that we need to remember history because looking back can help us to understand the world around us and to interpret events that may lie ahead.

This is important for our country and the world because our fate, and the fate of humanity, depends on our remembering and our understanding.

President Bush has been in Europe to mark the victory over Hitler. I am glad that he went, and I especially applaud him for visiting Latvia and Georgia. This was the right thing to do to demonstrate that America has not forgotten that the end of the war in Europe did not mean the end of oppression for millions of people who found themselves behind the Iron Curtain.

But learning from history depends on getting history right. And that's why I share the concerns of the Rocky Mountain News about part of the president's comments.

Speaking in Riga, Latvia, the president correctly noted that "For much of Eastern and Central Europe, victory brought the iron rule of another empire. V-E Day marked the end of fascism, but it did not end oppression." That was accurate, well put, and needed to be said.

However, regrettably, the president went on to say "The agreement at Yalta followed in the unjust tradition of Munich and the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. Once again, when powerful governments negotiated, the freedom of small nations was somehow expendable"—a statement that at best is erroneous and that at worse reflects an intentional distortion of history.

As an editorial in today's Rocky Mountain News notes, "Yalta did not leave the continent divided. The continent was already divided because Soviet armies were encamped in much of Eastern Europe and were not about to budge." In other words, the division of Europe was a fact before the Yalta conference began.

That is reality. But to somehow equate Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill with Molotov and Ribbentrop is something else entirely—either the product of a "delusion," as the historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. has suggested, or the revival of an intentional distortion that once was a political weapon for opponents of some of the president's predecessors.

As the historian David Greenberg, writing in *Slate* has noted, "Along with the myth of FDR's treachery in leading America into war, the 'stab in the back' interpretation of Yalta became a cudgel with which the old right and their McCarthyite heirs tried to discredit a president they had long despised. Renouncing Yalta even became a plank in the 1952 Republican platform, although Eisenhower did not support it. In time, however, these hoary myths receded into the shadows, dimly remembered except as a historical curiosity, where, alas, they should have remained undisputed."

In short, Mr. Speaker, we should remember history but not be misled by myths.

Here is the full text of the editorial in today's Rocky Mountain News:

[From the Rocky Mountain News, May 11, 2005]

#### PRESIDENT GOES TOO FAR

President Bush has taken surprisingly little heat—but deserves more—for his remarks in Latvia in which he equated President Franklin Roosevelt's conduct at Yalta with Neville Chamberlain's appeasement of Adolf Hitler in 1938 and the division of Poland by Hitler and Joseph Stalin in 1939.

"The agreement at Yalta followed in the unjust tradition of Munich and the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact," Bush said. "Once again, when powerful governments negotiated, the freedom of small nations was somehow expendable. Yet this attempt to sacrifice freedom for the sake of stability left a continent divided and unstable."

But Yalta did not leave the continent divided. The continent was already divided because Soviet armies were encamped in much of Eastern Europe and were not about to budge. It is true that Yalta's promise of free elections for Eastern Europe, given Stalin's record, amounted to the height of naivete, wishful thinking or cynicism. But even so, there is a vast difference between engineering oppression (Munich and Molotov-Ribbentrop) and sugar-coating its existence on the ground.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

##### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the American Public Works Association's National Public Works Week. From May 15 until May 21, the APWA will be sponsoring the National Public Works Week in a concerted effort to highlight the importance of the United States public infrastructure and public works services. It is my intention today to honor these agencies that are essential to the well-being of our country.

Too often we take the many contributions of public works and services for granted when they are so intricately woven in to the daily fabric of our lives. From the roads we travel to the clean tap water we use for drinking, public works pervade every facet of our lives. Our communities rely upon the public works agencies that provide the water, sewers, roadways, public buildings and waste collection to ensure that the communities we live, work and play in are safe.

The public works that operate in our neighborhoods and cities require maintenance by a staff of public employees. The staff that diligently design, build, maintain, and repair the public works projects are the invisible hands, or the people behind the scenes, that have dedicated themselves to the service of our communities. These hardworking individuals deserve the greatest of respect for the commitment they have shown in serving our communities' welfare.

In my own state of West Virginia, the influential hand of the public works and services reaches deep into the foundation of our state's economy. I have advocated vigorously for access to clean water sources for citizens as

well as effective waste water treatment sites to preserve the streams of my state. The Public Service Commission's Water and Wastewater division offers seminars that trained 220 utility employees about its new Water and Sewer rules last year alone. The PSC's transportation division regulates gas pipeline safety and regularly inspects reports of weakening infrastructure and leaks. Just last year they completed pipeline failure investigations of a ruptured pipeline in Wyoming County as well as an incident at Rocky Fork, WV.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending their own public works and services employees for the duties they perform. The services they provide are essential to our nation's well-being. The National Public Works Week provides us an opportunity to do so, and we should take it.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PATRICIA COUGHLAN

##### HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the contributions of Patricia Coughlan, who is the recipient of the "Tribute to Women Award," the Suburban Republican Women's Club highest honor.

Since 1985, Ms. Coughlan has been an active member of the Suburban Republican Women, formerly known as the Livonia Republican Women and Western Suburbs Club, an august organization in which she has served in a variety of senior leadership positions. One of the major accomplishments of Ms. Coughlan's hard work has been the creation and publication of the informative and inspiring Suburban Republican Women's Club newsletter, for which she currently serves as Editor-in-Chief.

It is an honor to pay homage to Ms. Coughlan, whose participation in shaping the political process has helped ensure representative government by inspiring others to play their full parts within our Nation's continuing experiment in democracy. Her devoted, compassionate leadership in our community has advanced the cause of democracy in our country, and exemplified America's innate humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Patricia Coughlan and hope my colleagues will join me in honoring and thanking her for her contributions to our community and country.

#### TOTALIZATION AGREEMENT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL ACT 2005

##### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, The United States entered into a Totalization agreement with Mexico on June 29, 2004. This agreement, like 20 others currently in force, is an effort to reconcile time worked in another country—under a different tax code and pension system—with time worked here at home, to

ensure workers have the proper amount of credits for their lifetime contributions to their retirement.

The Social Security Act allows for these types of agreements, but, unfortunately, it has a flawed mechanism for Congressional approval. Frankly, there are serious questions about whether the statutory approval process for Totalization agreements is even Constitutional.

Under current law, the President negotiates an agreement with another country, and then submits it to Congress for approval. Congress then has 60 days during which either the House or Senate are in session to consider the agreement and to disapprove it if necessary. The problem is that if one House of Congress passed a motion of disapproval, precedent suggests that it would be ruled an unconstitutional legislative veto.

The bill I'm introducing today will correct that. Since Totalization agreements are similar to trade agreements, I have proposed changes to the Social Security Act that will allow for an expedited consideration of any agreements for congressional approval, like we do for trade agreements. It would also require an actual affirmative vote for the agreement to take effect, rather than the current 60-day rule where if neither house acts, the agreement is deemed as accepted. A 60-day use-it-or-lose-it process does not respect the responsibilities of this House in drafting the laws of the country.

We need to protect the role of the legislative branch as the law-making body of this land. Current law does not do this, but my bill, the Totalization Agreement Congressional Approval Act 2005, will.

#### TERRORIST REWARDS ENHANCEMENT ACT

##### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Terrorist Rewards Enhancement Act. This bill will assist in our fight against terrorism around the globe. Currently, the terrorist rewards program run by the State Department assists in our hunt for terrorists by promising a cash reward or other type of reward for information leading to the arrest of some of the world's most deadly terrorists. This program has been very successful in the past in apprehending key people including Mir Amal Kansi, a terrorist who had murdered two CIA employees and injured three others in a 1993 shooting outside CIA headquarters in Virginia.

Under current law, the U.S. may not pay a reward to an officer or employee of another government. In January I traveled to Pakistan, where I meet with a number of government officials. At the strong suggestion of Pakistan's ISI and IB Intelligence and Police bureaus, I believe the President should be able to pay such a reward to anyone having information leading us to the greatest terrorists. If there is anyone, anywhere, even if they work for a Pakistani government agency, who has information about the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, we should be doing all we can to apprehend him.

With the capture of Al-Qaeda's number three man, Abu Farraj al-Libbi, last week, we are closing in faster and stronger than ever in the Waziristan region of Pakistan. We need to provide our State Department and intelligence officials with all the possible tools to aid in the capture of the world's number one terrorist. The Terrorist Rewards Enhancement Act will provide one more of these tools.

RECOGNIZING FLINT/GENESEE  
COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to stand before you today to recognize the Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable, a group of men and women committed to improving the quality of life for residents of my hometown, Flint, Michigan, and Genesee County. On Saturday, May 14, civic and community leaders will join the Roundtable to honor fallen neighborhood leaders James Dover II, Melvin McFadden, Adele Smith, C.J. Beasley, Virginia Brown, Genevieve Donnelly, and Guy Rogers.

The Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable was formed in 1995, the result of a state initiative known as Communities First. The goal of Communities First was to bring together neighborhood groups and organizations working to improve their areas, providing networking opportunities and the chance to share thoughts, ideas, and strategies toward making their towns a safer and better place in which to live.

In its 10 years, the Roundtable, in conjunction with the University of Michigan-Flint Outreach, the Neighborhood Violence Prevention Collaborative, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, and the Community Coalition, facilitated the Technical Assistance Training Institute, where future community leaders were trained in coalition building, grant writing, and other subjects designed to strengthen their skills. Many of the Institute's graduates can now be found working with the Roundtable and the Neighborhood Violence Prevention Collaborative, helping others identify potential grants and assisting with many neighborhood projects.

Other partnerships the Roundtable has established have addressed issues including health, youth violence, race relations, and the environment, among many others, and its members can frequently be found on the boards of local and state organizations. In addition, the Roundtable serves as a member of the Prevention Research Center of Michigan's Community Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I consider it my duty and my privilege to work to promote, protect, defend, and enhance human dignity. I am pleased that the efforts of the Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable make this task easier. Their mission to provide training and share information to enable residents to empower themselves, and to develop strong neighborhoods and form partnerships to be a collective voice and positive force in our community will improve Flint and Genesee County for years to come.

I ask my colleagues to please join me acknowledging their success.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
POLICE WEEK

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Police Week and the thousands of police officers who serve our communities. A life of public service is not always an easy path, and so I thank the officers and their families who sacrifice so much to keep us safe. Just the other day, James Billings, the Chief of Police for the City of Pueblo in my district, visited the office to discuss crime and drug issues, including recent developments involving the Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, program. His visit underscored to me the importance of those who work in law enforcement and the difficulties they face each and every day.

To that end, we should take the time to recognize and thank those who work so diligently to protect our families. It is not enough though to simply thank them; it is important that we continue to ensure funding and other necessary support is available for these brave men and women so they might do their jobs unimpaired.

This is why I strongly support the COPS program and urge the congressional leadership to increase, not cut, its funding level. COPS is designed to help police departments hire the officers they need to keep our streets safe, to purchase the equipment so crucial to their work, and to help ensure these stations can pay the overtime and build the support systems they need to allow their officers to do the jobs they carry out so nobly. Funding cuts to the program are unacceptable—a decrease in COPS funding means a decrease in the number of officers on the streets of our communities.

For that very reason, I am also a co-sponsor of a resolution calling for the creation of a Peace Officer's Memorial Day, which would honor those officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. I believe one of our greatest duties is to keep our communities, and our families, safe. Giving police officers the support they need and the recognition they deserve is one of the best ways to serve those we represent.

RECOGNIZING THE ARTISTIC  
TALENTS OF LINDSAY KILROY

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous artistic ability of a young woman from my Congressional District, Lindsay Kilroy of Woodland Hills High School. Lindsay is the winner in the 2005 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery."

Lindsay's piece, entitled, "Self Portrait Reflection," is an impressive portrait in acrylic paint of a young woman's face.

Lindsay's artwork was selected from a number of outstanding entries to this year's competition. I am certain that her family is proud of her artistic talents as well as this accomplishment.

It gives me great pride and pleasure that Lindsay's painting will be representing the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be set up in the United States Capitol in the coming weeks. The winners of the Congressional Art Competitions held in each Congressional District will be displayed in that exhibit.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Lindsay's artwork, along with all of the other winning artwork that will be on display throughout the next year. It is truly amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

I would also like to recognize all the other participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular.

I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. JOSEPH B.  
BLAKE OF DENVER, COLORADO

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph B. Blake of Denver, Colorado, for his commitment to entrepreneurship, economic development, education and improving the quality of life in one of America's fastest growing communities—Denver, Colorado.

Modern achievement in the West involves two credos: hard work and public service. The ethic of hard work has driven our economy since the early discovery of gold, and the ethic of public service—helping neighbors build a barn or establish a hospital—is what has made our communities thrive. In Colorado, there are few individuals who embody the values of hard work and public service as does Joe Blake.

Since 1999, Joe Blake has held the position of President and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber represents over 3,000 businesses and over 300,000 employees in the Denver metropolitan area. This position gives Joe a vital leadership role in the economic direction of the State of Colorado. When he first arrived as head of the Chamber, Joe brought new and innovative ideas with him. He spearheaded a program to educate corporate leaders from around the country about the favorable business atmosphere of the Denver region. Joe Blake's work helped create an economic expansion in Colorado that defined the "Tech Boom" of the late

1990s and early 2000s. The Chamber continues to promote economic vitality in the Denver region by encouraging personal networking opportunities and entrepreneurial training.

Joe has been a particularly strong voice in bringing needed vision to the Denver metro area's enormous transportation needs. Just as civic leaders in the past brought stagecoach lines and railroads to connect the people of the West, Joe has brought his considerable talents to the task of improving our highways and transportation systems in the Rocky Mountain region. Joe has not been a prisoner of old ways of thinking about transportation, but has embraced 21st century visions of better ways to move people and goods in our communities.

His desire to serve Colorado and its people has not only manifested itself in his professional life. Joe serves on the board of the Denver Foundation, an organization dedicated to charity and civic improvement. Joe also serves on the boards of the Denver Zoological Foundation and the Denver Public Schools Foundation. And if his plate was not full enough, he also volunteers for the Hospice of St. John Foundation.

Among the qualities I admire most in Joe Blake, however, is his ability to get things done in ways that bring people together instead of dividing on ideological or partisan lines. Although Joe has a long history of involvement with the Republican Party, he has never allowed partisanship to inhibit good public works. In large part, I believe Joe's success with people is a direct reflection of his reputation for decency, genuineness and personal warmth. In short, he is a uniter and not a divider and that is why I enjoy working with him and learning from him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Joe Blake for the positive impact he has had on the West and in Colorado, through his leadership at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and in so many other ways. Joe Blake is a pioneer in the best tradition of our history.

CONGRATULATING HON. JOSEPH J. CORCORAN ON THE OCCASION OF BEING HONORED AS RECIPIENT OF THE 53RD ANNUAL AMERICANISM AWARD BY B'NAI B'RITH AMOS LODGE NO. 136, SCRANTON, PA

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Honorable Joseph J. Corcoran, former Lackawanna County Pennsylvania Commissioner, who is being presented with the 53rd annual Americanism Award by B'nai B'rith, Amos Lodge No. 36.

Mr. Corcoran's 28 years of public service to the people in Lackawanna County have produced an array of positive improvements to the quality of life in that region. Mr. Corcoran has been a leader in economic development, transportation planning, historic and architectural preservation, tourism and culture, care

for the elderly and abused, library growth, family entertainment and environmental protection.

Although I am relatively new to representing Lackawanna County, I have worked closely with Joe Corcoran on some of his projects but have seen the results of many of his projects firsthand.

Joe always saw the big picture and his body of work reflected the values and work ethic of his constituency. He remained steadfast in his focus on long-range planning and leveraging local dollars with private, state and federal funding.

A native of Scranton, Joe earned an associate degree in business administration from Lackawanna College and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Scranton.

In 1975, at the age of 24, he was elected as the youngest ever Scranton controller, serving two terms. In 1984, he became Lackawanna County majority commissioner, serving five terms, until 2004.

In reviewing his accomplishments, he implemented the first-ever annual audit by national "Big 8" accounting firms which upgraded Lackawanna County's municipal bond rating. He created the County Railroad Authority, Multi-Purpose Stadium Authority, Solid Waste Management Authority, Performing Arts Center Authority and Heritage Valley Authority.

He funded the start-up of the Steamtown National Historic Site; constructed a dedicated children's library in downtown Scranton and new libraries in the Abingtons, Carbondale and Mid-Valley; directed the opening of the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour, Lackawanna Valley Railway, Lackawanna County Recycling Center, Lackawanna County Visitor center and Lackawanna Trolley Museum. He also revived the 1905 Laurel Line Tunnel Electric Trolley Excursion and the Lackawanna Stadium on Ice.

He championed the restoration of Court House Square, the Koch-Conley Building, the PG&W Building on Jefferson Avenue and the Adams Avenue County Administration Building. He managed the rescue of the Montage Mountain Ski Resort and development and operation of the Montage Performing Arts Center. He oversaw the development and financing for both the \$35 million Lackawanna County Prison and the \$8 million, 68-bed, Alzheimer's Wing at the Lackawanna County Health Care Center.

He chaired the Wilkes-Barre Scranton International Airport Board of Control and helped develop the master plan and financing program for the current \$65 million capital expansion underway at the airport. He implemented the region's first Tax Incremental Financing to fund construction of Glenmaura Corporate Center and to facilitate the Fleet Pennsylvania Services relocation on Montage Mountain.

Mr. Corcoran recognized the future transportation needs of our region when he helped keep intact the rail connections between Lackawanna and Monroe counties for the eventual future resumption of rail passenger service between Scranton and Hoboken, NJ. But his most distinguished achievement is his key role in the funding and construction of the \$25 million Lackawanna County Stadium and the acquisition of the area's Triple A Baseball team, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Red Barons.

Mr. Corcoran is the son of the late John J. and Lucille M. Dougher Corcoran. He resides

in his family neighborhood in Scranton with his wife, the former Jean Gallagher, and their son, Jack, a student at the University of Scranton.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Corcoran, one of the finest public officials I have ever had the pleasure of working with, on this proud occasion. The Lackawanna County community is far better off today because of the remarkable service record of Joseph J. Corcoran.

### TRIBUTE TO MR. WALLACE EDGECOMBE

### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wallace I. Edgecombe for over 30 years of service to Hostos Community College in the Bronx. On Thursday, May 12, 2005, Hostos will honor Wally with a celebration that will also serve to raise funds for students who wish to study the Arts at Hostos.

In 1982, Wally oversaw the founding of Hostos' Culture and Arts Program, of which he became director. Twelve years later the Center for the Arts and Culture was constructed and under Wally's leadership the Center has become one of the premier multi-arts centers in the New York metropolitan area, presenting a virtual who's who of visual and performing artists of color. Now one of the pre-eminent Latino arts centers in the nation, the Hostos Center has presented and/or commissioned works by such internationally known musicians as Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, Orquesta Aragon, Ruben Blades and Dizzy Gillespie.

Born and raised in Havana, Cuba, Wally holds a Bachelors degree in History and Master's degree in Journalism from Columbia University. He has served as a panelist and site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Lila Wallace-Readers Digest Arts Partners Program, and the Rockefeller Foundation. Wally has also served on the boards of the Museums of Contemporary Hispanic Art, the Bronx Council on the Arts, the Bronx Arts Ensemble, and the South Bronx Community Action Theatre.

Mr. Speaker, what makes Wally so special is his commitment to ensuring that the students of Hostos and the entire Bronx community are able to experience the beauty and richness of the Arts. I am thankful to Wally for helping to brighten the lives of so many of my constituents and I hope he continues his commendable work in the heart of the South Bronx.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a great man and a dear friend of mine, Mr. Wallace I. Edgecombe.

### HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY TO MR. PAUL ARTHUR RZEPECKI

### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I warily rise today to reluctantly acknowledge Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki on the unexpected occurrence of his 40th birthday.

A former Eagle Scout, the singular Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki is, despite carefully crafted admissions policies, a graduate of Catholic Central High School and the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Following his graduation and eviction from his parents' house, Mr. Rzepecki surprised everyone, most notably himself, by acquiring gainful employment, which has inexplicably continued through this very day.

On a personal level, after standing up in my wedding—at least through the ceremony—Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki entered his own blessed union with his beloved Chari, who we hope is, in turn, blessed for her noble suffering; and the couple has two beautiful, delightful daughters, Emily and Kristin, who take after their

mother. In addition to acting as a husband and a father, Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki is also an enthusiast of minimalist painting, dead languages, blood sports, and Anheuser-Busch. He also maintains an assiduous physical regimen of watching others exercise.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 40 years of his presence amongst the less fortunate, Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki has a long list of accomplishments, which escape me at present, save for the ineluctable fact he introduced me to my wife Rita, who has yet to forgive him this sin. Yet, as America is a compassionate country, let us lose the past; hope for the best; and extend Mr. Paul Arthur Rzepecki our urgent hope his best years rest ahead.

## A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD

## HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, through the following statement, I am making my financial net worth as of March 31, 2005, a matter of public record. I have filed similar statements for each of the twenty-six preceding years I have served in the Congress.

## 2005 DISCLOSURE

Assets			
Real property:			
Single family residence at 609 Ft. Williams Parkway, City of Alexandria, Virginia, at assessed valuation. (Assessed at \$1,134,600). Ratio of assessed to market value: 100% (Unencumbered)			\$1,280,700.00
Condominium at N76 W14726 North Point Drive, Village of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at assessor's estimated market value. (Unencumbered)			121,600.00
Undivided 25/44ths interest in single family residence at N52 W32654 Maple Lane, Village of Chenequa, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at 25/44ths of assessor's estimated market value of \$1,229,500.			698,579.54
Total real property			2,100,879.54

  

Common & Preferred Stock	# of shares	\$ per share	Value
Abbott Laboratories, Inc.	12200	46.62	568,764.00
Agere Systems Class B	184	1.42	261.28
Allstate Corporation	370	56.04	20,734.80
American Telephone & Telegraph	291.43	18.75	5,464.31
JP Morgan Chase	4539	34.60	157,049.40
Bell South Corp.	1422.3822	26.29	37,394.43
Benton County Mining Company	333	0.00	0.00
BP PLC	3604	62.40	224,889.60
Centerpoint Energy	300	12.03	3,609.00
Chenequa Country Club Realty Co.	1	0.00	0.00
Comcast	423	33.78	14,288.94
Darden Restaurants, Inc.	1440	30.68	44,179.20
Delphi Automotive	212	4.48	949.76
Dunn & Bradstreet, Inc.	2500	61.45	153,625.00
E.I. DuPont de Nemours Corp.	1200	51.24	61,488.00
Eastman Chemical Co.	270	59.00	15,930.00
Eastman Kodak	1080	32.55	35,154.00
El Paso Energy	150	10.58	1,587.00
Exxon Mobil Corp.	9728	59.60	579,788.80
Gartner Group	651	9.57	6,230.07
General Electric Co.	15600	36.06	562,536.00
General Mills, Inc.	2280	49.15	112,062.00
General Motors Corp.	304	29.39	8,934.56
Halliburton Company	2000	43.25	86,500.00
Hospira	1220	32.27	39,369.40
Imation Corp.	99	34.75	3,440.25
IMS Health	5000	24.39	121,950.00
Kellogg Corp.	3200	43.27	138,464.00
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	14738	65.73	968,728.74
Lucent Technologies	696	2.75	1,914.00
Merck & Co., Inc.	34078	32.37	1,103,104.86
3M Company	2000	85.69	171,380.00
Medco Health	4109	49.57	203,683.13
Monsanto Corporation	1426.1575	64.50	91,987.16
Moody's	2500	80.86	202,150.00
Morgan Stanley/Dean Witter	312	57.25	17,862.00
NCR Corp.	68	33.74	2,294.32
Neenah Paper Co.	462	33.62	15,532.44
Newell Rubbermaid	1676	21.94	36,771.44
One Group Prime Money Market	7123.72	1.00	7,123.72
Pactiv Corp.	200	23.35	4,670.00
PG&E Corp.	175	34.10	5,967.50
Pfizer	22211	26.27	583,482.97
Qwest	571	3.70	2,112.70
Reliant Energy	300	11.38	3,414.00
RH Donnelly Corp.	500	58.09	29,045.00
Sandusky Voting Trust	26	1.00	26.00
SBC Communications	2603.101	23.69	61,667.46
Solutia	1672	1.32	2,207.04
Tenneco Automotive	182	12.46	2,267.72
Unisys, Inc.	167	7.06	1,179.02
US Bank Corp.	3081	28.82	88,794.02
Verizon	1251.2993	35.50	44,421.13
Vodafone Airtouch	370	26.56	9,827.20
Weenergies (Wisconsin Energy)	1022	35.50	36,281.00
Total Common & Preferred Stocks and Bonds			\$6,702,538.77

  

Life Insurance Policies	Face \$	Surrender \$
Northwestern Mutual #4378000	12,000.00	65,492.31
Northwestern Mutual #4574061	30,000.00	157,326.55
Massachusetts Mutual #4116575	10,000.00	10,439.69
Massachusetts Mutual #4228344	100,000.00	253,956.40
Old Line Life Ins. #5-1607059L	175,000.00	39,059.43
Total Life Insurance Policies		\$526,274.38

  

Bank & savings & loan accounts	Balance
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., checking account	\$17,934.85
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., preferred savings	47,508.18
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, checking account	13,527.58
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, savings	364.47
Burke & Herbert Bank, Alexandria, VA, checking account	1,756.59
JP Morgan, IRA accounts	100,917.14
Total bank & savings & loan accounts	\$182,008.81

Miscellaneous	Value
1994 Cadillac Deville—retail value .....	\$4,925.00
1989 Cadillac Fleetwood—retail value .....	2,600.00
1996 Buick Regal—retail value .....	5,425.00
1991 Buick Century automobile—retail value .....	2,175.00
Office furniture & equipment (estimated) .....	1,000.00
Furniture, clothing & personal property (estimated) .....	170,000.00
Stamp collection (estimated) .....	80,000.00
Interest in Wisconsin retirement fund .....	304,740.35
Deposits in Congressional Retirement Fund .....	160,254.54
Deposits in Federal Thrift Savings Plan .....	209,737.21
Traveller's checks .....	7,418.96
17 ft. Boston Whaler boat & 70 hp Johnson outboard motor (estimated) .....	7,500.00
20 ft. Pontoon boat & 40 hp Mercury outboard motor .....	13,500.00
Total miscellaneous .....	969,276.06
Total assets .....	\$10,480,977.56
Liabilities .....	None
Total liabilities .....	\$0.00
Net worth .....	10,480,977.56

## 2005 DISCLOSURE

Statement of 2004 taxes paid	
Federal income tax .....	\$97,307.00
Wisconsin income tax .....	29,049.00
Menomonee Falls, WI property tax .....	2,180.00
Chenequa, WI property tax .....	21,729.00
Alexandria, VA property tax .....	11,289.00

I further declare that I am trustee of a trust established under the will of my late father, Frank James Sensenbrenner, Sr., for the benefit of my sister, Margaret A. Sensenbrenner, and of my two sons, F. James Sensenbrenner, III, and Robert Alan Sensenbrenner. I am further the direct beneficiary of five trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner, and I are trustees of separate trusts established for the benefit of each son.

Also, I am neither an officer nor a director of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin or of any other state or foreign country.

F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, Jr.,  
Member of Congress.

# HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM R. "BILL" ALLDER, JR., NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SENIOR EXECUTIVE

## HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the life of William R. "Bill" Alder, Jr., a senior executive with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). Bill Alder, who faithfully served the United States Government for more than 30 years, passed away on May 7, 2005. He was a dedicated public servant who made a lasting contribution to keeping our Nation safe.

Mr. Alder was a respected leader at the National Oceanic Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Defense Mapping Agency, the Central Imagery Office, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, and most recently, NGA, where he served as the Director of NGA's Strategic Transformation Office. He helped stand-up NGA's predecessor, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency. An intellectual pioneer of the Nation's geospatial intelligence discipline that has become a bedrock of the intelligence community, Mr. Alder was a world-class information technology manager who directed the development and deployment of large, complex systems worldwide.

To the legions of government employees and aerospace and defense contractors he

managed over the years, he will be most remembered for his photographic memory, unerring judgment, decisive leadership, and wonderful sense of humor. Mr. Alder's numerous awards include the Meritorious Service Award, the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Presidential Rank Awards of Meritorious Executive, and several Distinguished Executive Awards. He is survived by his wife Susan "Soozi" Alder, a daughter Jacquelyn and a son, William R. Alder III, and by two sisters, Elizabeth "Bette" Rutherford and Diane DuBois. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the exceptional life of an extraordinary public servant who will be greatly missed by all.

## NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

## HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge National Nurses Week. In honor of this week, I would like to take a moment to recognize and praise the tireless efforts and critical role that nurses play in the health and well-being of our communities across America. Nurses, like my late grandmother, are a cornerstone of health care in this country.

A nurse's role goes far beyond the hospital; nurses reach into charity clinics, in-home care, churches, and school volunteer health programs. Nurses conduct research, publish, review and continue to educate their peers and the public about their ever-evolving role and positive impact on the health care community. Nursing students seek guidance from nurse mentors and work alongside professionals not only in the scholastic setting but in the community at large, participating in educational offerings, community service projects, legislative endeavors, health fairs and many other activities.

Our Nation's nurses are a valuable part of our society and therefore deserve our continued support for their profession. Currently, this profession is facing some serious challenges. In Arkansas and all over America, we are faced with a nursing shortage. There are over 25,000 nurses registered in Arkansas, and over 1,000 of those are nurse practitioners. For a State with 2.5 million citizens, this is simply not enough. The low nurse to patient ratio is far below what it needs to be and therefore we need to do more to increase the number of nurses, while also supporting our existing ones.

Unfortunately, nursing programs are severely underfunded in the fiscal year 2006

budget. The president's budget has requested \$150 million for nursing workforce development programs, including the Nurse Reinvestment Act. That figure represents a cut of \$1 million over the FY 2005 funding level. With a predicted nursing shortage of more than 275,000 registered nurses by the year 2010, this is the wrong time to be cutting back our investment in this country's future nurses.

As a member committed to supporting our nurses, I, along with fellow colleagues, sent a request to the appropriations committee for \$175 million that will go toward nurse workforce development programs, which will enable nurses to receive the proper training necessary to keep up with their ever-evolving profession. These funds would also be used to provide incentives for students and nurses to receive advanced degrees in the nursing profession and student loan programs.

Nurses are a critical component of health care in this country, offering support and providing assistance at every step of the health care process. I commend nurses for their hard work and tireless efforts, from school nurses to emergency rooms, and charity clinics to nursing homes. As a United States Congressman, I will continue to fight to ensure nurses are adequately funded and have the resources they need to continue to properly care for our Nation's children, working families, and elderly.

## IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF DR. DUNCAN N.P. PRITCHETT, JR.

## HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to comment upon and advise my colleagues in this House about the life of an illustrious educator in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dr. Duncan N.P. Pritchett, Jr., almost universally known as "Pat," began his career as an Indianapolis Public Schools teacher in 1969, fresh out of college. In time he left the classroom to lead as a principal, an administrator, and since 1997 as Superintendent of IPS, directing the education of 39,000 students in 79 schools in the heart of Indianapolis, finding innovative ways to improve their opportunities and performance. But in all of this he has stayed in touch with students and their families; he'll often be found in a classroom, reading, or at an assembly sitting in the crowd and appreciating the work of students and teachers.

Pat has been honored time and again. He was the 2002 Outstanding Alumnus of Ball State University Teacher's College. He was



chosen as the Indiana Music Educators Association's Outstanding Administrator. He received the New Millennium Education Award from the Indiana Christian Leadership Conference and Martin University. And most recently, he was honored for distinguished support of music education with the first annual VH1 Save the Music Foundation Administrator Award.

And now he has had enough: Pat is retiring and passing the challenge along to someone else. We'll miss him—he'll sure be a hard act to follow.

Pat is an extraordinary public servant. He is highly commended in his good work and I wish him and his family all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

#### TRIBUTE TO KEVIN GANO

#### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Kevin Gano, who recently retired after more than 30 years of distinguished public service. His innovative approach to law enforcement has had a tremendous positive impact on the safety and gang presence in my hometown of Norwalk, California, for more than a decade and a half.

Kevin Gano entered the justice arena in 1973. Over the course of that decade in the California cities of West Covina and La Verne, he held a variety of positions as a uniformed officer ranging from patrol officer to major crimes investigator to field sergeant and watch commander. In 1987, he served as senior administrative assistant to the City Manager in Upland, California.

In 1989, Kevin was named Norwalk's first director of the Department of Public Safety. He immediately began working to combat a gang warfare problem that had gotten so bad that area schools had taken to conducting drive-by shooting drills during which students would practice taking cover under their desks. He introduced the "Silver Bullet," an RV that was deployed to at-risk communities to establish a visible police presence in the areas of suspected gang or drug activity. He worked to hold parents of gang members responsible for the children's actions. He targeted taggers—gang members who sprayed graffiti around the community. He led the way as the first leaders in the area to push for a gang injunction that imposed curfews for gang members, prohibited them from communing together in public and carrying items that could be used as weapons. The measure imposed fines and jail time for offenders. He did all this knowing that he could eventually become a target of the gang members, and he was. In July 1994, one gang painted "Gano 187" on an alley wall, a reference to state's penal code for homicide.

His methods were so extraordinarily successful that in 1995, the FBI named Norwalk one of the 25 safest communities in the country, an honor it would receive for the next three years. Kevin was not complacent, even after crime, graffiti and truancy statistics fell dramatically in the city. He remained committed to combating the root of the problem. In 1995, he helped establish the Public Safety Cadet Youth Program that is still in place

today. The program is aimed at giving youngsters leadership and problem-solving skills and a sense of responsibility while increasing their self-esteem through positive social interaction.

Kevin's public role was not limited to his work for the city. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors not only appointed him a commissioner and vice chair for the California Department of Children and Families but took portions of his program and implemented it in other areas around the State. California's governor appointed him to serve on the Metropolitan State Hospital Advisory Committee. And the State Department of Juvenile Justice tapped Kevin as an advisor on youth crime prevention and intervention strategies. His expertise in this area was so well recognized that he was called upon to write two bills that have since become State law. I am proud to say that I authored one of those bills, which have subpoena power to school truancy boards.

But it is Kevin's personal and behind-the-scenes approach that makes him more than a public servant. On an annual basis, he has unofficially adopted numerous Norwalk children and their families by providing them with basic essentials and resources they need to make it through their daily lives. He has always been willing to lend a hand and spend hours off the clock counseling or advising youngsters and parents alike.

Kevin stepped down from his position on April 15, 2005. The impact of his work will continue to endure in the city. You can see it just by walking around, an activity that was risky in sections of the city when he came to Norwalk 16 years ago. His legacy also manifests itself in the lives of children who are not only staying alive and away from gangs but making a positive impact on society. Not surprisingly, two of the children who have emulated his commitment to public service are his own: his son Kevin is a police officer in the City of Buena Park and his daughter Jeannette is a Recreation Supervisor with the City of Claremont. After 30 years dedicated to making his community safer, I know Kevin will enjoy the opportunity to spend more time with them and his wife of 34 years, Darlene. As a friend and a resident of Norwalk for more than 40 years, I thank him on behalf of my 38th Congressional District for all he has done to improve the lives of our community.

#### INTRODUCING THE CONSUMERS ACCESS TO HEALTH INFORMATION ACT

#### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to enhance the health and liberty of American citizens by introducing the Consumers Access to Health Information Act of 2005. This act ensures consumers can receive truthful information about how foods and dietary supplements can cure, mitigate, and prevent specific diseases. The act does this simply by correcting an erroneous court decision and thus restoring congressional intent to allow consumers to have access to information regarding the health benefits of dietary supplements without government interference.

In 1990, responding to the demands of the American people that the federal government respect consumers' right to receive information about the ways foods and dietary supplements can improve their health, Congress passed the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act. The intent of that act was to allow the manufacturers of foods and dietary supplements to provide consumers with accurate and specific information regarding the curative and preventive effects of foods and dietary supplements. However, the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, ignored repeated efforts by Congress to protect consumers' First Amendment rights to receive truthful information about the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements.

Incredibly, in the case of *Whitaker v. Thompson*, 353 F.3d 947 (2004), rehearing den. 2004 U.S.D. App. LEXIS 4617 (D.C. Cir. March 9, 2004) the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit supported the FDA's interpretation of Congress's intent and rejected the clear restraints of the First Amendment by ruling that the FDA had the authority to censor information regarding the specific benefits of foods and dietary supplements.

Mr. Speaker, under the D.C. Circuit's absurd interpretation of federal law, the only way food and drug manufacturers can transmit information about the health benefits of their products is by going through the lengthy and expensive FDA drug approval process. Because of this court decision, manufacturers are reluctant to provide all but the most general health information, thus ensuring that consumers remain ignorant about how they can cure or avoid diseases by making simple changes in their diet.

There are numerous examples of how the FDA's grocery store censorship negatively impacts Americans' health. Several years ago, the FDA dragged manufacturers of Cholestin, a dietary supplement containing lovastatin, which is helpful in lowering cholesterol, into court. The FDA did not dispute the benefits of Cholestin. Instead, the FDA attempted to deny consumers access to this helpful product simply because the manufacturer did not submit Cholestin to the FDA's drug approval process.

The FDA's treatment of the manufacturer of Cholestin is not an isolated example of how current FDA policy harms consumers. Even though coronary heart disease is the nation's number-one killer, the FDA waited nine years until it allowed consumers to learn about how consumption of foods and dietary supplements containing soluble fiber from the husk of psyllium seeds can reduce the risk of coronary heart disease. Thanks to the FDA, the American public is also prevented from learning about possible ways to prevent cancer, Alzheimer's, high blood pressure, urinary tract infection, and numerous other diseases.

At a time when health care costs are rising it is absurd for the federal government to prevent Americans from learning about how they increase their chances of staying healthy by making simple changes in their diets. However, this bill is about more than physical health; it is about freedom. The First Amendment forbids Congress from abridging freedom of all speech, including commercial speech. The type of prior restraint the FDA exercises over these health claims has also been thought to be particularly repugnant to the First Amendment. In a free society, the federal government must not be allowed to prevent people from receiving information enabling them to make informed decisions about

whether or not they will use dietary supplements or eat certain foods. I, therefore, urge my colleagues to take a step toward restoring freedom by cosponsoring the Consumer Access to Health Information Act.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RABBI LEONARD TROUPP

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the leadership and service of Rabbi Leonard Troupp, who is retiring after 18 years as the spiritual leader of Temple Beth David in Commack, New York.

All of us in Congress rely on many religious leaders in our communities for guidance and inspiration. But Rabbi Troupp transcends that role. For me, he has been and will continue to be a dear friend. I have turned to him as a Member of Congress, and I have turned to him as a member of his congregation. I have solicited his advice on the profound public policy challenges that confront our government, and I have listened to his words on the personal decisions and choices we make every day in our private lives.

Rabbi Leonard B. Troupp was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1973. He is a Past President of the Long Island Association of Reform Rabbis, and has also served on the Board of the New York Association of Reform Rabbis.

Rabbi Troupp's many passions have forever enriched the lives of his congregants and others. As a result of his motivation, Temple Beth David collects over 15,000 pounds of food for the hungry each year. Through his impossible dream, 1997 saw the reunion of a Holocaust Torah with a survivor, Petr Herrmann, whose father read from that very same Torah scroll. Rabbi Troupp has been an outspoken and passionate advocate for human rights and civil rights; for a strong Israel; for a fair and just America. He mobilized his congregation in a letter writing campaign to decry the rising Anti-Semitism in Europe. Through his hard work, he and his wife, Michelle, eventually hand-delivered thousands of letters to a Presidential Representative in the West Wing.

His sermons, candid and sometimes controversial, have been spoken from his heart and have touched the hearts of those who have heard his words.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Troupp dedicated his career to making our community stronger, better and fairer for people of all faiths and backgrounds. He is not simply my Rabbi; he is a teacher to a joyously diverse community in New York's Second Congressional District. His teachings, his strength and his commitment will continue to guide my constituents and me. In that sense, he has made an indelible imprint on the fabric of Long Island, New York, and our nation.

HONORING VFW 5119

#### HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5119 in Glen Gardner, New Jersey. Members of VFW Post 5119, which includes Hunterdon and Warren counties, are traveling to Washington this week to view the memorials along the National Mall, throughout the capital and in Virginia that represent so much of our nation's history.

These memorials are at once simple and compelling, powerful enough that in an instant an old man is transported back decades to when he was young and walked on the field of battle. The memorials are our own living reminder that generations of Americans fought, struggled and died to defend our Nation and its enduring principles of freedom and liberty.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial along the National Mall is the most visited of all landmarks in Washington. The Marine Corps Memorial, also known as the Iwo Jima Memorial, honors Marines who have given their lives in defense of our country since 1775. Along Pennsylvania Avenue, between this Capitol and the White House, the Navy Memorial at the plaza honors the men and women who served in the Navy. The Korean War Memorial opened only 10 years ago, and the National World War II Memorial opened only last year. Across the Potomac River in Virginia, Arlington National Cemetery houses the most of sacred of our Nation's memorials—the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

There are a lot of memorials for the members of VFW Post 5119 to see, and for the rest of us, there's a lot for which we are grateful. The members of VFW Post 5119 honor each of us with their presence in our Nation's capital.

#### CELEBRATING ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, the month of May marks Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and I am pleased to recognize the more than 172,000 Asian Pacific Americans living in Minnesota. My state is home to a vibrant and diverse community, which includes prominent elected officials as well as business and civic leaders.

The fourth congressional district is home to nearly 47,000 Asian Pacific Americans and one of the largest Hmong populations in the United States. The many thriving businesses on University Avenue in St. Paul are a great example of the positive changes and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans. Today, the avenue is a vibrant commercial corridor largely due to the investment of Hmong, Lao, Cambodian and Vietnamese Americans who came as refugees and now own businesses.

Although the Asian Pacific American community has made great strides, obstacles to success remain. I am committed to removing

barriers by improving access to education, creating jobs and eliminating health disparities. By working together to increase opportunities for all, we work toward this year's theme, "Liberty and Freedom for All."

As we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we salute the pioneers who paved the way and renew our commitment to those who follow in their footsteps. I am very proud of the vibrant Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in my district, throughout the state of Minnesota and across the country.

#### WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1268, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2005

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference agreement for the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill. I wish to commend the conferees for their work in bringing this important legislation to the House floor. The funding provided by this bill not only helps insure that our military will have the resources and capabilities necessary to prevail in the global war on terror, but it also supports the Pentagon's important R&D programs.

I recently noted concerns published by two former defense officials over possible reductions in future defense advanced technology development. While I am confident that this Administration and the Congress will continue to provide ample funding for the military's R&D programs, it is important to underscore how these programs help incubate technologies with important military applications being developed by small companies.

My Congressional district has a number of small companies with innovative new technologies that promise significant benefits to the military. Three of these companies have developed technologies that offer good examples of private initiatives ready to be advanced for military use in partnership with the Defense Department. The funding in this bill will make this partnership possible.

One company, Zebra Imaging, has developed a 3-D hologram technology that now produces three-dimensional imagery of battlefield information imagery for military planning and reconnaissance purposes. The first of these imaging systems is now being deployed by the Army for use in Iraq, with a second system planned. Several defense R&D programs are assessing advanced applications of this technology for the future warfighter.

A second company, Teravicta Technologies, has engineered advanced radio frequency microelectro-mechanical (RF MEMS) switches and relays that provide much greater efficiency and performance in military electronics and communications systems, such as radar and satellite communications, as well as cell phones and other mobile wireless devices.

Pinion Software, the third example, is developing a simple system for securing sensitive

data stored in and transmitted by wireless mobile devices. The widespread and growing military use of wireless handheld devices and laptop computers has an accompanying security threat that is increasingly serious and will be protected by this technology.

These and other promising new technologies are fostered by the R&D programs funded by this bill and other defense appropriations. I urge the continued support of technologies as described here, which will provide the military important new capabilities.

IN HONOR OF CINCO DE MAYO

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, recently in commemoration of Cinco de Mayo, I joined community leaders and elected officials from the City of Houston in a celebration and parade that paid I tribute to Mexican culture. As the Congressman from the 9th District I was honored to represent my constituents at this annual event.

Although Cinco de Mayo marks the Mexican Army's victory over the French Army in 1862 at the Battle of Puebla in Mexico, this holiday has evolved into a way to celebrate the richness of Mexican culture. Within the United States, it is also a way to join with our fellow Mexican-American brothers and sisters and to learn about their heritage.

Cinco de Mayo brings our community together. In Houston, we are very proud of the great cultural and ethnic diversity of our city. Today, Cinco de Mayo is an annual celebration in which we take time to enjoy the great food, music, art, and people of our Mexican community.

Mr. Speaker, with this in mind, I feel that it is very important that we observe this holiday and the opportunity for cultural celebration of the people of this great Nation.

AN ARTICLE BY MR. DEXTER LEHTINEN

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to place into the RECORD the words of Dexter Lehtinen, a reconnaissance platoon leader who was seriously wounded in the Vietnam War. After serving our country in Vietnam, Mr. Lehtinen graduated first in his class from Stanford Law School and went on to serve as a Florida State Senator and a United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida.

On May 8, the world celebrated the 60th anniversary of V-E Day marking the end of the war in Europe. With ceremonies commemorating the Allies victory over tyranny, the day served as a reminder of the sacrifices made to this country by what many call our greatest generation.

In contrast to the fitting tribute paid to the World War II generation, Jane Fonda recently published a book "My Life So Far." There, she

expresses regret not for her visits to North Vietnam, her broadcasts on Radio Hanoi nor her cavalier description of our tortured POW's as "hypocrites and liars," but only for being photographed in a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun site.

Let us not forget how damaging her actions were to the POW's and combat troops in the field. I firmly believe in the First Amendment rights all American's cherish, but traveling to enemy soil to criticize our soldiers and airmen during the war is a reprehensible act not easily forgotten nor pardoned.

I urge my colleagues to read Mr. Lehtinen's article and never forget the sacrifices made by all veterans of this great nation.

[From the National Review, April 29, 2005]

JANE FONDA IN WONDERLAND

NON-APOLOGY NOT ACCEPTED

(By Dexter Lehtinen)

You may have heard that Jane Fonda apologized to Vietnam veterans in her current book. That's incorrect. She expressed "regret" for one photograph, but remains proud of her Radio Hanoi broadcasts, her efforts to achieve a Communist victory, and her attacks on American servicemen as war criminals. She never uses the word "apology."

Fonda's latest foray into her past—with her pseudo-apology for having been photographed while sitting on a Communist North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun, along with her continued vigorous defense of all other aspects of her trip to North Vietnam and her support for the North Vietnamese and Cambodian Communist wars—reminds us that apologies can be very tricky things. An unqualified apology offered with sincere regret for the full scope of the wrong by someone who recognizes the harm inflicted on others can help in reconciliation. But a "pseudo-apology," offered with limitations by someone who still defends the bulk of the wrong, only serves to aggravate the injury.

Everyone knows the negative effects of the common pseudo-apology, the refrain of which goes, "I'm sorry if I offended you." Pseudo-apologies attempt to subtly shift the blame to the injured party, who apparently misunderstood the good intentions of the offender.

So it is with Jane Fonda's book. In *My Life So Far*, "Hanoi Jane" expresses "regret" for one thing—being photographed with an anti-aircraft gun. "I do not regret that I went. My only regret about the trip was that I was photographed in a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun site." Fonda amplifies: "That two minute lapse of sanity will haunt me until I die." She is "innocent of what the photo implies," but "the photo exists, delivering its message, regardless of what I was really doing or feeling." She makes it abundantly clear, without apology or regret, that what she was "really doing" was aiding the Communist enemy (who "touch our hearts"), and that what she was "really feeling" was that U.S. aviators were war criminals.

The photograph is not Fonda's primary transgression. Of course, the photo itself became the everlasting graphic proof of her outrageous behavior. So in a way Fonda is right—in practice, it is the photograph that reminds generations of who Jane Fonda really is. In her "regret," limited to the photograph alone, Vietnam veterans see Fonda's endeavoring to ameliorate the harm to herself with virtually no regard to the harm she caused to others.

Hanoi Jane's wrongs go far beyond the photograph. First, of course, are the facts that she joined the enemy gun crew at all and made two visits to North Vietnam. Second,

Fonda's self-initiated broadcasts on Radio Hanoi accused Americans of being war criminals. It was these broadcasts from the enemy's capital (not the gun photo) that gave her the lasting handle "Hanoi Jane" in emulation of "Tokyo Rose," an American who broadcast Japanese propaganda in World War II. In her self-proclaimed FTA ("F\*\*\* the Army") rallies, she claimed that personal atrocities "were a way of life for many of our military".

Third, Fonda exploited American POWs for Communist gain, asserting that the POWs were being treated humanely following a Communist-controlled visit. In fact, the remarkable POWs who showed any resistance to the Fonda visit were beaten severely and she betrayed the POWs by falsely claiming that they expressed "disgust" and "shame" over what they had done. When the returning POWs reported their torture, showing their broken bodies as proof, Fonda called them "hypocrites and liars." She claims in her book that she was "framed."

Fourth, Fonda ignored the non-Communist Vietnamese and Cambodians who resisted the Vietnamese Communists and the Cambodian Khmer Rouge, showing no concern for their fate. Fonda continued to support the Communists against indigenous non-Communists even after American withdrawal. She was not "anti-war"; she was "pro-war"—for a Communist victory. She was not even "anti-atrocity" per se, remaining silent on Communist executions of Vietnamese and Cambodian civilians (such as the 3,000 slaughtered with their hands tied in Hue in 1968, or the final tragedy following Communist victories in 1975).

Fonda's hopes for a Communist victory in South Vietnam and Cambodia were fulfilled. But her hopes for fame as an instrument of Communist achievements have been dashed on the rocks of reality—the truth about Communist malevolence and disregard for human dignity; the truth about the commitment by most American soldiers to honorable behavior; the truth about the torture and murder of American POWs. Now her efforts to promote commercial gain through a limited pseudo-apology, which is simultaneously withdrawn by a less visible (yet explicit) defense of her transgressions, will fail on the same rocks of reality.

Jane Fonda has always lived in a kind of Wonderland—where American POWs are liars and Communist tyrants are honorable men. Now she says that "the U.S. loss represented our nation's chance for redemption" and that the Communist victory "symbolizes hope for the planet." Her latest foray into the Vietnam War only shows that, unlike Alice, Jane Fonda has yet to emerge from Wonderland.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1279, GANG DETERRENCE AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 11, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to ensure jobs for our future with secure, affordable, and reliable energy:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1279, the gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act. I am disappointed that

the majority has chosen to address a very serious problem with unrealistic and potentially damaging solutions.

Gang activity is a very real and dangerous problem. In my own district, gangs pose a severe threat to the youth in many communities. Just yesterday, I spoke at length with a constituent whose son has suffered permanent and irreversible brain injury from a beating at the hands of a local gang.

There is much that Congress can and should do to help keep our youth out of gangs and strengthen our law enforcement efforts against gangs. Gangs are tough and gang members often do not respond to mild measures. We should increase the resources available to gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs, such as the Juvenile Delinquency Protection Block Grant (JJDPBG). These programs have been very effective in helping youth make the correct decisions with regard to gang activity.

We should increase the resources available to our public schools. All too often, youth join gangs because they feel that it is the only option available to them. By helping our teachers, administrators, and school systems, we can show them other, more promising, options.

We should oppose the reduction or elimination of programs that put police officers on our streets. Since 1994, the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program has funded 4,806 additional police officers and sheriffs deputies to prevent crime in New Jersey. It has allowed New Jersey to spend \$45 million on crime-fighting technologies. We should be having a serious discussion about why this successful program warrants an 80 percent cut in the Republican budget for Fiscal Year 2006.

Unfortunately, this legislation proposes ineffective and damaging solutions to this serious problem. Mandatory minimum sentencing guidelines discount mitigating factors in crimes and are discriminatory towards people of color. It is time to give up the Congressional fascination with mandatory sentencing. It does not work. It may make the legislator feel good, but it hinders the judicial process, and most important it does not stop crime or deter criminals.

Also, diverting youth to the adult criminal justice system does nothing to deter crimes. In fact, youth tried and sentenced as adults are much more likely to commit violent crime after being released. Further, I am concerned that H.R. 1279 provides no exception for youth who have mental health problems and may not be competent to stand trial as adults.

I am happy that Congress is addressing this issue, which has affected so many communities across New Jersey and the country. Serious crimes like murder, assault, and rape at the hands of gangs and criminal enterprises clearly deserve our attention. However, this bill proposes solutions that do nothing to deter youth from gang membership or strengthen the law enforcement presence in our communities.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 1279.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 1279, GANG DETERRENCE  
AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 11, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to ensure jobs for out future with secure, affordable, and reliable energy:

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1279, "The Gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act of 2005."

Northern Virginia is home to large Central American and Asian populations. I believe these groups bring a diversity and work ethic that enhances and benefits our region. Our diversity is one of our strengths.

Unfortunately, we have become increasingly aware of the gang element that sometimes attends these communities, and we are now fighting the spread of violent gang activity here in our neighborhoods.

Accounts of machete attacks and other violent murders have awoken my constituents to the dangers gangs present to all communities in Northern Virginia. In fact, law enforcement officials say there is a gang presence in every high school in Fairfax County. In the past, I have worked with my colleagues Frank Wolf and Jim Moran to direct federal resources for anti-gang activity to Northern Virginia. I have also traveled on numerous occasions to those Central American countries that serve as the breeding ground for MS-13 and other such gangs.

The legislation we are voting on today addresses one aspect of gang control. As our neighbors in El Salvador have learned, you can make all the arrests you want, but if you don't have the ability to effectively prosecute you actually exacerbate the problem. This legislation will help ensure that we do not have the same issue here in the United States.

The tough penalties set out by the bill will send a clear message that we intend to stop the menace of gang violence, and that those who challenge us will be dealt with harshly. We are also bolstering our commitment to law enforcement by providing them the resources they need to penetrate gangs and successfully put members behind bars.

Of course, if we are to ultimately be successful and effectively stem the expansion of gang activity, we need to take a comprehensive look at all strategies including law enforcement, international engagement, educational programs, social services and prevention. Law enforcement is one key component; however, without adequate attention to these other aspects, we will have a great deal of difficulty eradicating this epidemic.

To that end, I plan to continue to work with my colleagues to provide adequate support for education and prevention efforts, outreach, and other proactive programs to deal with the problem at the source. In addition, as the chairman of the committee with jurisdiction over the Office of National Drug Control Policy, I intend to thoroughly investigate the tie between narcotrafficking and gang activity. I

plan to travel again to both Colombia and El Salvador this month as part of this effort.

I also intend to meet with leaders of those countries to determine how the United States can better assist their efforts to stem the flow of gang members to the United States.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to address this serious challenge, and I again want to thank my friend Randy Forbes for taking the lead on this critical aspect of our fight.

PROVIDE GREATER JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES THROUGH CAR OWNERSHIP

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, for many low-income families, getting to a job can be even harder than getting hired in the first place. Research shows that lack of affordable and reliable transportation is a significant barrier to employment. If we want more people to work, we need to help make sure that they can get to work. Unfortunately, travel to and from a specific workplace on our cities' public transportation systems can be time-consuming and even practically impossible—especially for those struggling to leave welfare.

Public transit is designed to accommodate 9-to-5 commuters who need to get from one city destination to another during the normal workweek. But the entry level jobs of low-income workers are increasingly found in the faraway plants, warehouses, strip malls, and office parks of suburbia. The work schedules of these new hires may include "off-hour" shifts when public transit is unavailable or too unreliable. Low-income parents also need to go to job training classes, the supermarket, the doctor's office, or to day care to drop off their children. These destinations may not be located along public bus or train lines.

Studies show that people are more likely to find steady employment and earn a decent wage when they have access to a car. But all too often, buying and maintaining a reliable automobile is too expensive for families struggling to make ends meet. A recent report by the Annie E. Casey Foundation found that one-fourth of families earning \$25,000 or less have no cars.

In recent years, a number of states and non-profit organizations have developed programs to assist the working poor with the purchase of a car. Most of these programs receive vehicles donated by the public or purchase them wholesale from dealerships. The used cars are repaired to good working order and then leased or sold to low-income workers and job seekers, usually at a subsidized purchase price. In many cases, program operators work with local lending institutions to obtain loans for the car purchase while also providing financial education to the new owner. In addition to improving access to jobs in far reaching suburbs or rural areas, some low-income car ownership initiatives can bolster the family's credit for future purchases, such as a home, as well as connect these families to a savings institution.

In order to help develop and expand these low-income car ownership efforts, I am introducing the Creating Access to Rides (CAR)

Act. This legislation would establish a 5-year, \$50 million grant program through which states, localities, and nonprofits could apply for funding to strengthen existing low-income car ownership programs or create new ones.

The bill would also facilitate car ownership through the use of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). IDAs are special savings accounts for very low-income individuals through which, as an incentive to save, a person's contributions to the account are matched by public and private funding. States can use funds authorized by a little-known law called the Assets for Independence Act (AFIA) to match participant contributions to IDAs. However, when IDA contributions are matched using AFIA funds, withdrawals may be used for only three qualified expenses: homeownership, post-secondary education, and starting a business. This bill would expand permissible IDA uses under AFIA matching rules to include the purchase of a car.

In addition to AFIA dollars, states can use their Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to match IDA contributions. While the purchase of a car is not included in the underlying TANF statute as a qualifying IDA expense, the Department of Health and Human Services has clarified that states can elect to permit withdrawals for car purchases when the participant's IDA is matched with federal TANF dollars. However, some states have found that, as a result of choosing this option, the IDA can be considered an asset when determining the participant's eligibility for other programs such as food stamps.

This legislation would remove this barrier and allow states to use TANF dollars to match IDA savings for a car without the account's assets being counted against the participant's eligibility for other important programs.

Mr. Speaker, vehicle ownership is critical to matching the available workforce with available jobs. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and enact it in a timely manner so that low-income Americans can get behind the wheel, improve their job prospects, and gain greater opportunities to provide for their families.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO PLUMBERS LOCAL UNION 210 2005 APPRENTICE GRADUATES

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and admiration that I offer congratulations to many of Northwest Indiana's most talented, dedicated, and hardworking individuals. On Friday, June 10, 2005, the Plumbers Local Union 210 will honor the completion class of 2005 at the Annual Apprentice Completion Banquet which will be held at the Patio Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

They will be recognizing and honoring the 2005 Apprentice Graduates. The individuals who have completed the apprentice training are: Jamie Anderson, Damon Berry, Jesse Brill, Robert Burkus, Raymond Crawford, Michael Fanning, Kenneth Francus, Jason Kennedy, Robin Marshal, Josh Musser, Scott Norwine, Joe Palek, Joshua Poston, Daniel Rosenbaum, Collin Sanders, Brian Schoff,

Kevin Stonehill, Lee Thomas, Chris Tomko, and John Zbell.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These graduates are all outstanding examples of each. They have mastered their trade and have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and self-sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these hardworking individuals. Along with all the other men and women of Northwest Indiana's unions, these individuals have contributed to the growth and development to the economy of the First Congressional District, and I am very proud to honor them in Washington, D.C.

#### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut, the anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

On this day 57 years ago in 1948, the British Mandate over Palestine expired and cleared the path for the State of Israel to be created. Despite her continued struggle for existence, Israel has overcome these difficulties to thrive and prosper. Israelis have become world leaders in agriculture, technology, medicine and science.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Israel for its continued support through the decades. Since its creation, Israel has been one of America's staunchest allies. And as the sole democracy in the Middle East, we as a nation must maintain our support and ensure our ally's continued survival.

#### INTRODUCING THE RAIL SECURITY ACT OF 2005

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today, together with Subcommittee on Railroads Ranking Member CORRINE BROWN and 12 of my other colleagues, I introduce the "Rail Security Act of 2005."

It's been almost 4 years since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and one year since the terrorist train bombing in Madrid, Spain, that killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,800 others, making it the deadliest terrorist attack against European civilians since 1988. Last month, Spanish authorities found in the home of a suspect in the Madrid bombing, a rough sketch of New York's Grand Central Terminal, the significance of which is being evaluated.

The Madrid bombing was just the latest in a series of attacks on railroads worldwide. Between 1998 and 2003, there were 181 attacks worldwide on trains and rail-related targets such as depots, ticket stations, and rail bridges, resulting in an estimated 431 deaths and several thousand injuries. Yet the Federal

Government has done little to enhance rail security in the United States. The Madrid bombing alone should have served as a wake-up call to Congress and the Administration.

Last year, the United States spent \$4.4 billion on aviation security, but only \$115 million on rail and transit security, even though five times as many people take trains as planes every day. The President's FY2006 Budget for the Transportation Security Administration proposes \$4.7 billion for aviation security and just \$32 million for highways, passenger rail, buses and other modes of surface transportation.

Amtrak alone has requested \$100 million in security upgrades and nearly \$600 million for fire and life-safety improvements to tunnels on the Northeast Corridor in New York, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. Securing Amtrak and other rail facilities is a formidable task, but Congress must get it done. Of course, that requires Federal leadership and Federal resources, both of which are long overdue. For 4 years now, our country still hasn't produced a national transportation security plan.

The Aviation Transportation Security Act of 2001 originally required the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop and submit to Congress a National Strategy for Transportation Security. In 2003, then Transportation Security Administrator Admiral James Loy promised the plan by the end of that year. Most recently, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorist Prevention Act of 2004 required the plan to be produced by April 1, 2005. Unfortunately, the Department has pushed back the completion date for this document again. On April 1, 2005, the DHS sent a letter to Congress stating that the Department now intends to produce the National Strategy for Transportation Security to Congress in two to three months.

We cannot continue to delay security improvements while awaiting the National Strategy. Congress needs to act now to protect the safety and security of our Nation's railroads, rail passengers, rail workers, and communities served by them.

The Rail Security Act of 2005 requires that within 180 days of enactment, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Transportation shall develop and implement a railroad security assessment, a railroad security plan, and prioritized recommendations for improving railroad security. The bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Transportation to execute a memorandum of agreement governing the roles and responsibilities of their Departments in addressing railroad transportation security matters.

The bill authorizes more than \$1 billion to safeguard our Nation's rail network from terrorist threats, \$500 million of which is authorized for grants to State and local governments, railroad carriers, rail labor, and others for costs incurred for preventing 3 or responding to terrorist activities or other security threats to intercity passenger rail and freight rail service.

Under the bill, Amtrak will receive \$100 million for security upgrades, plus a total of \$597 million to make fire and life-safety improvements to tunnels on the Northeast Corridor in New York, New York, Baltimore, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. This funding is critical to protect Amtrak's 25 million passengers, two-thirds of whom travel along the Northeast Corridor.

The bill authorizes \$50 million for the Secretary of Homeland Security to create a research and development program to improve freight and intercity passenger rail security. The Secretary of Homeland Security is also required to develop a national plan for public outreach and awareness and a study on passenger, baggage, and cargo screening.

Moreover, the Rail Security Act of 2005 focuses on an issue that security bills often ignore: the importance of ensuring that key workers have the support and training required to protect our rail system, whether those workers are railroad employees or emergency responders.

Rail workers are truly the eyes and ears of the rail industry. They greet passengers, sell tickets, operate trains, maintain track and signal systems, dispatch trains, operate bridges, and repair cars. They are in the most direct position to spot security risks and potential threats. This bill requires rail carriers to provide security training to these workers to ensure that they are prepared to take appropriate action against threat conditions. The bill also strengthens whistleblower protections to ensure that workers who report or identify a security risk will not face retribution or retaliation from their employers. A rail worker should not have to "choose between doing the right thing on security and holding on to his or her job. Despite whistleblower protections in current law, employees still experience employer harassment and intimidation when reporting accidents, injuries, and other safety concerns. This language will help ensure that these practices end.

Congressmen HENRY WAXMAN, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, and I asked the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in 2002 to examine ten communities to evaluate whether they were prepared to respond to rail incidents involving hazardous materials, whether accidental or intentional. Accidents in urban areas, such as the 2001 occurrence in the Howard Street Tunnel in Baltimore, Maryland, involving a fire fueled by hazardous materials, and a leak of hydrochloric acid from a parked tank car in an urban area in Lowell, Massachusetts, have called attention to the safety of hazardous materials shipped by rail. The recent tragedy in Graniteville, South Carolina showed the devastating effects such hazmat accidents can cause.

To my disappointment, GAO found that many emergency responders were not properly trained to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials and radioactive waste. In each of the ten Communities evaluated, local fire department officials confirmed that fire department personnel had only received hazardous material awareness-level training, the lowest level of training recommended in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 472, Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents. This training provides first responders with the knowledge and skills to identify a hazardous materials incident and to contact the appropriate response resource. However, NFPA representatives have advised me that the minimum level of training for first responders should actually be at the operations level, the second highest level of training described in NFPA Standard 472, which trains responders to plan and initiate a response to the incident. The Rail Security Act of 2005 requires this training.

GAO also found that while most local communities have equipment on hand to use in response to a hazardous material incident, some locations lacked important equipment, such as detectors, decontamination equipment, and personal protective gear needed to respond to accidents involving hazardous materials and radioactive waste. My bill addresses this need. It authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to State and local governments, as well as nonprofit employee organizations representing emergency responders, for advanced firefighter turnout gear.

The Rail Security Act of 2005 also ensures that emergency responders will be able to get real-time information for dealing with hazardous materials and passenger railroad incidents through the Operation Respond Institute. The bill provides Operation Respond with \$2.5 million for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2007 for deploying and expanding the Operation Respond Emergency Information System software, developing and implementing a railroad infrastructure mapping program, and establishing an alert and messaging capability for use during emergencies involving freight and passenger railroads.

The Rail Security Act of 2005 includes legislation that the House has overwhelmingly passed in previous Congresses, the Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act, which ensures that the needs of the families of the victims of terrorist attacks or accidents are addressed. This bill was similar to legislation we enacted in 1996 to address the treatment of families of the victims of airline crashes. We should do no less for those who ride our nation's passenger trains.

As we introduce this bill today, we invite other colleagues to join us in co-sponsorship and work together to ensure its passage.

#### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 57th anniversary of Israel's independence.

Today we celebrate the realization of a two thousand year old Jewish dream to return to the ancient kingdom of Israel. Centuries of persecution and propaganda gave this dream a sense of urgency and, at the end of the Nineteenth Century, Theodor Herzl and other Jewish leaders throughout the world mobilized to establish a new Jewish state. Their dream inspired persecuted Jews throughout the world to courageously find refuge in Palestine in search of a better life for themselves and their children. Without their bravery and determination, the rebirth of Israel never would have been possible. The unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust further cemented the necessity of a Jewish state, and Israel was finally established as a sovereign and independent nation on May 14, 1948.

The State of Israel was founded on the ideals of pluralism, freedom, and human rights and has maintained these democratic ideals in the face of war, terrorism, and frequent diplomatic isolation. Israel has served as a beacon of democracy in the Middle East and its shared values with the United States has led

to a natural kinship between the two nations. We have maintained a strong alliance with Israel based on friendship, principles, strategy, and a commitment to defeat terror.

Israel's determination to maintain its democratic principles in the face of relentless threats to its citizens has been admirable. We salute this accomplishment and we must work with Israel to defeat terrorist threats to the institutions that nurture democracy and prosperity in our two countries and throughout the world.

Since we celebrated this day a year ago, Israel has experienced an increased sense of optimism for the achievement of a full and lasting peace. The newly elected leader of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, has publicly denounced terrorism and has vowed to both crack down on militants and to root out corruption in the Palestinian Authority. Similarly, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has demonstrated his commitment to peace by preparing for the withdrawal of Israeli settlers from all 21 settlements in Gaza and four in the West Bank. Although the realization of a full and lasting peace in Israel remains distant, we must embrace these developments as a reflection of the cautious optimism embodied in Israel's national anthem, *Hatikvah*, which means "the hope." We hope that Israel will continue to serve as the "light unto the nations" that Herzl envisioned more than a century ago and that Israel's 58th year will be a time of peace throughout the region.

#### IDEAS ON RETIREMENT SECURITY

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit for the RECORD this article that appeared in the Hartford Courant on May 9, 2005. It poses the idea of investing the Social Security surplus in the financial markets. The future of Social Security would be addressed through the strength of these markets without the uncertainties of the stability of individual private accounts. The author also addresses some of the concerns that have been raised about this idea.

As you can see, there are many thoughts that can be brought to the table to address the future of Social Security and to utilize the forces of the financial markets without being wedded to private accounts. Additionally, there are many issues surrounding personal retirement savings and pension security that deserve to be looked at carefully.

[From the Hartford Courant, May 10, 2005]

PUSH-BUTTON PICKS JUST TOO SIMPLE

(By Dan Haar)

The Social Security private accounts tour passed through Hartford Monday with some downhome remarks from Treasury Secretary John W. Snow that called to mind H. Ross Perot, who sounded open-minded but wasn't. Snow was in town pushing President Bush's scheme to move much of the Social Security trust fund into private accounts, where you and I can watch our retirement accounts grow and wither and maybe grow back again.

The private accounts would cost an estimated \$2 trillion to set up, and they would do nothing on their own to fill the Social Security shortfall. These are not points of debate.



Still, Snow said, "I challenge all of our critics to say, if you think you've got a better idea, what is it?"

He added, echoing Perot without the irony of anatomy, "We're all ears."

Well there is a better idea—but sadly, the administration is all fists in fighting it back. That's because private accounts are not on the list of features the Bush folks are willing to do without.

The idea behind the private accounts is that workers could choose to invest their money in stocks, not just the long-term bonds the trust fund uses today. Over time, on average, company shares earn higher returns than bonds. Social Security could meet its obligations without raising payroll taxes, and poof! We wipe out much of our \$11 trillion deficit.

If tapping into the stock markets would work in private accounts, why can't it work for the trust fund as a whole? Why can't the fund simply set a target of stockownership—say, 25 percent—and gradually ramp up to that target, without giving Aunt Martha fits over the state of her personal account?

The financial results would be identical to Bush's plan.

The start-up cost would be lower because it could be done over a period of years.

Aunt Martha, who may already have plenty of worries about her 401(k) and other private savings, could rely on a predictable stream of retirement income, no matter what—just like uncle Chester had back in the day.

The fund could achieve returns based on decisions by the best and brightest financial minds—not the twitches of a nervous household, multiplied by 100 million.

Last week, a ranking Treasury official told me the problem is that Social Security would end up meddling in the stock markets—a dangerous thing if, say, someone in power wanted to help or hurt General Electric Co.

But that worry is easy to wave off with a pair of laws even this Congress would pass without much debate: All stocks must be part of broad index funds, and never could the Social Security Administration vote in company proxies.

On Monday, Snow produced another answer: Allowing the fund to invest as a whole in stocks produces a short-term surplus, "and short-term surpluses become subject to the spending proclivities of Congress."

"This," Snow said of the private accounts, now echoing Al Gore, "is a lock-box."

It's true that Congress—and our free-spending president, by the way—have borrowed heavily from today's Social Security surpluses. But it's hard to believe that federal spending rises just because the surplus is there. It rises because we have rising needs, and because the political system we have causes it to rise.

Anyway, there are better ways to rein in federal spending than to needlessly take trillions of dollars out of the system and put them in a place—your hands and mine—where they will cause new grief. The administration's real goal here is not to advance Social Security, but to push its social agenda, the so-called "ownership society."

Funny, median family income adjusted for inflation—the most important measure of how typical Americans are doing—has fallen three straight years and is headed for a fourth as Bush showers tax breaks on companies that aren't hiring. Whose ownership society is this?

Democrats and their allies at AARP in the Social Security debate have offered little in the way of real solutions. John Rother, director of policy and strategy for AARP—defending his hilariously exaggerated, slam-dunk anti-personal account TV ad cam-

paign—told me the idea of allowing the trust fund to invest more broadly makes sense.

But he said the public isn't ready for that discussion.

Despite the lack of a cohesive public debate, the trust fund investment idea may emerge as a dark horse. On Monday, the Yale School of Management announced a working paper by finance professor Will Goetzmann that shows exactly how such a system might work.

Goetzmann envisioned an independent agency, similar to Fannie Mae, that would manage the Social Security fund. It could issue its own bonds and sell contracts, like annuities. It could invest in all sorts of sophisticated instruments that individual accounts couldn't touch, such as commercial real estate, commodity indexes and short-term Treasury notes.

Goetzmann calculated a portfolio mix that would most closely mirror the rise in U.S. wages. That's the measure Social Security uses to set payouts to retirees.

"It's a fairly broadly diversified portfolio," Goetzmann said Monday.

Setting the right investment mix, he said, "is a very sophisticated question that is not going to be answered with a few oversimplified choices on a menu."

And getting to that point in the debate will not happen as long as we have officials on both sides who give us an oversimplified menu of political arguments, and nothing more.

#### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Israel Independence Day. This young country, now 57 years old and surrounded by hostile neighbors on each of its borders, has stood as a bulwark of democracy throughout its history.

On this day we honor the people of Israel, who struggle daily to maintain freedom and independence. Throughout the country's short history, Israelis have fought against unfathomable odds to reestablish the birthplace of the Jewish People. Today, Israel stands strong and prosperous, longing to live in peace and security. Today we also remember and pay tribute to the strong bond of friendship and support between the United States and the State of Israel.

I am proud to have visited Israel and to have seen firsthand the courage and steadfast resolve of its people. I look forward to a time when we will be able to join Israel in the celebration of a more peaceful and secure Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that all Americans will join me in congratulating the citizens of Israel and the entire Jewish community on the 57th anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel.

#### IN HONOR OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Yom Ha'atzmaut to

congratulate the Israeli people for a remarkable history and to celebrate the strength of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

In just 57 years, a land mainly comprised of desert has been transformed into fertile farmland, thriving communities and world-class cities. Industry and technology have boomed and most significantly, millions of Jews have returned to live in their ancestral homeland.

A robust democracy has developed around the ideals of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, fair elections and an independent justice system. In fact, it is the only nation in the region to accomplish this.

Brave soldiers have fought to defend their brethren and innocent civilians have courageously endured the constant threat of attack—all to live freely in their homeland. And, despite this constant threat, the Israeli people remain committed to a peaceful coexistence with their neighbors—a testament to their resolute and compassionate spirit.

As remarkable as Israel's short history is, we must not take its existence for granted. While recent events have sparked new optimism in the peace process, radical terrorist organizations, such as Hamas, Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad, emboldened by Iranian and Syrian support, are as committed as ever to their core goal: the eradication of Israel. And by now, we are all too familiar with the daunting task of protecting innocent people from suicide bombers.

Despite this reality, Prime Minister Sharon and the Israeli people plan to move forward with an historic and courageous plan to withdraw from Gaza and parts of the West Bank this summer.

As Israel moves forward with efforts to live with its neighbors in peace and security, it is crucial that we continue to stand by her.

We must defend Israel's right to engage in legitimate acts of self-defense to prevent terrorist attacks in Israel;

We must stand up for Israel when our international allies and other members of the international community unfairly criticize her;

We must hold Syria, Iran, and any other country that aid and harbor terrorists, accountable; and

We must push President Abbas and the Palestinian leadership to match Prime Minister Sharon's courage by taking steps to end corruption, crack down on terrorist organizations and end the media incitement that encourages hatred and violence.

Support for Israel has been one issue consistently agreed upon by both Republicans and Democrats, through many different administrations and many different times. I am proud that this support remains so strong today.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to stand by Israel and I know my colleagues join me in expressing Mazel Tov for a remarkable 57 years.

#### ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to join my colleagues in the United States Congress and world leaders in celebrating the creation of the State of Israel on this 57th anniversary of Israel's Independence

Day. On this historic day, we honor the achievements of the Jewish people and the Jewish state, and salute a young and proud nation that has accomplished so much in so little time.

In the 57 years since independence, Israel has welcomed immigrants from all corners of the world, including over a million new immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Israel today is a vibrant democracy, the only democracy in the Middle East, and a world leader in technology and agricultural innovation for arid regions.

We must remember that these great achievements have come at a great cost. More than 20,000 Israel Defense Force members have died fighting for the cause of a Jewish state in the years since the war of independence—over 169 Israeli soldiers in the past year alone, since the last Remembrance and Independence Days. Their sacrifice has created a beacon of democracy and hope for millions of Jews around the world.

We must also remember those innocent civilians who have been killed by terrorists trying to destroy the State of Israel and her people. By remaining strong in our convictions and our support of Israel, we honor their memory and move closer towards creating a peaceful and prosperous future.

On this Day of Independence, the United States of America and Israel stand side-by-side in our commitment to democracy, to peace, and to the State of Israel. The United States will never flinch and will never waiver in its support for the safety and security of the State of Israel and of her people.

#### NEW BOOK REVEALS VOICES OF SOUTH ASIA

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I have recently been given a copy of an interesting new book called *Authentic Voices of South Asia*, edited by retired Brigadier General Usman Khalid and published by the London Institute of South Asia. The book is an excellent discussion of India's hegemonic ambitions in South Asia and the drive for self-determination for all the peoples of the subcontinent. I recommend it to my colleagues as an excellent source of information about that difficult and troubled region.

The book includes essays on the situation in Punjab, Khalistan, in Kashmir, and in other troubled parts of the subcontinent. It extensively discusses India's ambition to be the overwhelming, hegemonic power in South Asia and control all the countries there and its disrespect for the sovereignty of its neighbors. It is dedicated to "250,000 Sikhs, 90,000 Muslim Kashmiri Martyrs and many more who have been killed in all parts of India, notably Assam, Maharashtra, and Gujarat by Hindu mobs or the Indian police and armed forces." This doesn't mention the fact that the Hindu mobs carry out their atrocities with the connivance of the Indian police and armed forces. For example, a policeman in Gujarat told an Indian newspaper that the massacre of 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims there was pre-planned by the Indian government and the police were told to stand aside, a remarkable parallel to

the 1984 Delhi massacre of Sikhs, in which Sikh policemen were locked in their barracks.

In all, Mr. Speaker, over 250,000 Sikhs have been murdered by the Indian government, according to the Punjab State Magistracy, in addition to more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout India, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and others, as well as the minorities cited in the introduction to *Authentic Voices of South Asia*. In addition, according to the Movement Against State Repression, India holds over 52,000 Sikh political prisoners, some of whom have been in illegal detention without charge or trial since 1984. Amnesty International reports that tens of thousands of other minorities are also held as political prisoners. This is why this book is so urgently needed and so important.

The book includes essays by Dalit leader V.T. Rajshakar, Dr. Gurm Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon, Editor of the *International Journal of Sikh Affairs*, and many other leaders and scholars. Mr. Rajshakar writes that "the glitter of Brahminism lies in its imperial ambitions and its fascist agenda." Dr. Sekhon writes that only accepting the principle of national self-determination provides a basis for peace and stability in South Asia.

India agreed in 1948 to a plebiscite in Kashmir to determine its status. That plebiscite has never been held, even as India proudly proclaims itself "the world's largest democracy." Well, why not simply let the people of Kashmir, of Punjab, Khalistan, of Nagaland, and of all the other minority states and communities determine their status by means of a free and fair vote. Isn't that how democracies do business? It is time for the U.S. Congress to go on record demanding a free and fair vote, demanding that India keep its promises and act like the democracy it claims to be. It is also time to stop American aid and trade with India until its "imperial ambitions and its fascist agenda" are abandoned and all people within its borders enjoy full civil liberties and human rights. Only then can India's claim of democratic principles be taken seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the Preface from *Authentic Voices of South Asia* into the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues and the American people.

#### AUTHENTIC VOICES OF SOUTH ASIA PREFACE

South Asia is the only major region in the world with unsettled frontiers. This is not because the states that emerged from the end of British colonial rule in the subcontinent have no 'principle' or 'agreement' to draw on for settling their disputes, it is because the largest country—India—has simply resiled on the agreements it made. The 'core' dispute in the area is over the future of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. India took the matter of its 'ownership' of the State to the UN Security Council which ordered a cease fire but rejected its claim; it upheld the UN Charter and secured an agreement of both India and Pakistan that the people would decide which country their state would join—India or Pakistan—in a UN supervised Plebiscite. India used the cease-fire to consolidate its military position and then went back on its agreement in 1953 to hold the Plebiscite on the specious grounds that Pakistan had signed a bilateral defence agreement with the US and introduced a 'foreign' element that India found unacceptable.

The root cause of all the problems in South Asia is India's self view as an 'imperial' power with a role to keep order in the region. India acts like the US did when it exercised control over South and Central America under the Monroe Doctrine or the Soviet Union exercised control over East Europe under the Brezhnev Doctrine. India does not recognise the sovereign equality of states of South Asia; it acts as if it operated a 'doctrine of limited sovereignty' of sorts in the region. India is resented and abhorred by all its neighbours for that reason. India became a 'strategic partner' of the Soviet Union during the Cold War and is now a 'strategic partner' of the US and Israel. It chose its 'partners' with only one consideration—who will recognise India as the 'primary power' in the region (a policeman in American parlance) and thus help keep a lid on the pressure cooker that India had turned South Asia into.

Pakistan is not the only victim of India's 'imperial' aspiration; the religious minorities and the 'low born' inside India suffer even more. India betrayed the Sikh who it promised to give their own 'sovereign state'. It betrayed the Untouchables by Poona Pact promising meaningless 'legal safeguards' in exchange for the effective 'political safeguard' of 'separate electorate' offered to them by the British Government. All the various tribal peoples all over India, who had been self governing under British rule, have been denied their separate identity and rights. The betrayal of India is matched by the ineptitude of Pakistan's leaders who neither understood the Indian mindset nor their own role as the champion of 'post imperialism' to uphold the right of 'national self-determination' in South Asia and as a 'nation state' with Islam as the principle of national solidarity.

Putting this book together was a huge task that could be done better if some of the constraints had been absent. Because it is so difficult to speak the truth and survive in South Asia, many of the *Authentic Voices* live in exile and those who live in India have to be careful. Being a soldier rather than scholar, my editing is not characterised by 'academic restraint' but by 'forthright clarity'. But I have not tried to harmonise style or substance; the differences of views between the various contributors exist, as they must. After all, these are the *Authentic Voices* of different I peoples. I am grateful to all the contributors, particularly to Syed Ali Geelani and Mr V.T. Rajshakar, who are under close watch in India, to have taken risks to address the people of South Asia and given them hope and direction.—Brigadier (R) Usman Khalid.

#### THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET RESOLUTION CONFERENCE REPORT

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, on February 17, 2004, the national debt of the United States exceeded \$7 trillion for the first time in our country's history. One year later, our national debt is \$7.7 trillion. In the past year, our country has added \$700 billion to our national debt.

The conference report for the FY06 budget resolution that is before us today would increase the statutory debt limit by \$781 billion to a record \$9 trillion. Mr. Speaker, enough is

enough. The out-of-control rise in our national debt over the last year and the rise in our debt envisioned in this conference report are further signs of the terrible fiscal position in which we now find ourselves.

In 2001, we had ten-year projected surpluses of \$5.6 trillion [2002–2011]. Now, over that same time period, we have likely ten-year deficits of \$3.9 trillion. That's a \$9.5 trillion reversal in our ten-year fiscal outlook.

Whether intentional or otherwise, our country's current fiscal policies are depriving the Federal government of future revenue at a time when we ought to be preparing for an unprecedented demographic shift that will strain Social Security and Medicare. Our current fiscal irresponsibility will eventually land squarely on the shoulders of our children and grandchildren, who will be forced to pay back the debt we are accumulating today. The "debt tax" that we are imposing on our children and grandchildren cannot be repealed. It can only be reduced if we take responsible steps now to improve our situation.

Both parties need to work together in a bipartisan fashion to bring our budget back into balance so we can avoid the higher long-term interest rates and weakened dollar that are the inevitable consequences of rising deficits and a high national debt. We are witnessing on a daily basis the reaction of the global financial markets to our fiscal irresponsibility, and as we can see in this conference report, Congress has not yet gotten the message that deficits and debt matter.

For starters, Congress needs to reinstate PAYGO rules for the entire budget, including spending and revenue measures. Budget enforcement rules that apply to only certain parts of the budget will not have a significant impact on our rising deficits, as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan mentioned in his recent testimony before the Budget Committee.

This fiscal year alone, interest on the national debt is expected to rise to \$178 billion, and the administration projects that that figure will increase to \$211 billion during the next fiscal year. To put that figure in perspective, projected interest on our national debt next year will be \$75 billion more than projected spending on education, public health, health research, and veterans' benefits combined [\$138 billion].

Further, the budget conference report before us today, which was filed only three hours before the House began to consider it, would require the House to cut Medicaid funding by as much as \$15 billion over the next five years. Just two days ago the House voted, by a vote of 348–72, to reject harmful cuts to the Medicaid program, and this conference report blatantly ignores the will of the House.

In addition to assuming an ever-larger share of our annual budgets, the interest on our debt, and the debt itself, are increasing our reliance on foreign borrowers, which will weaken our position in the world and increase the risk that another nation will be able to assert greater leverage over America. Over the last year, our country has borrowed nearly \$400 billion [\$389 billion] from foreign countries, and almost half [44 percent] of our publicly-held debt is held by foreign creditors [\$1.96 trillion, out of \$4.4 trillion of publicly held debt].

Finally, our deficits and debt threaten the Social Security and Medicare programs that have raised so many of our seniors out of

poverty and helped sustain the strongest middle class in history. With a projected 75-year unfunded liability of \$3.7 trillion, both parties in Congress need to work together to address Social Security's solvency problem, and this conference report does nothing to protect Social Security. In fact, it continues the practice of raiding the Social Security trust funds to pay for other expenses of the Federal Government.

It is time for Congress to stop playing games with our national debt, with Social Security, and with our kids and grandkids' futures and take a commonsense, bipartisan approach to solve our budget problems.

#### TRIBUTE TO KCPT PRESIDENT/CEO WILLIAM REED

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, we join today to pay tribute to William T. Reed, the President and CEO of KCPT, Kansas City's public broadcasting station, who has announced his retirement effective June 30, 2005. He steps down after 13 years as head of Kansas City Public Television.

Bill Reed joined KCPT in 1992 and emphasized education, local programming and outreach. The station received numerous awards from PBS, the National Educational Telecommunication Association, NETA, and community organizations for its local programming and services, including 21 regional Emmy awards and one national Emmy for the documentary, "Be Good Smile Pretty". Four of the station's signature program series, "Ruckus", "Rare Visions", "Roadside Revelations" and "Kansas City Week in Review", began under Reed's leadership. He also introduced viewers to the beautiful writings of Kansas City Star columnist Charles Gusewelle, who this spring will produce his fourth documentary for KCPT, called "Stories Under the Stone". Reed's collaboration with Gusewelle also launched KCPT's home video library venture. Later this year, children and their parents also will benefit from the development of an interactive reading program called "Bark Park Place".

Bill Reed made partnerships and collaborations an important part of the station's business plan. In 2003, KCPT was named Best Place to Work for Community Partnerships by the Kansas City Business Journal. Many of those partnerships, like Chalkwaves, a digital instructional media service for elementary and secondary schools now used across the country, changed the education landscape. Additionally, the Kansas City Regional Access Consortium for Higher Education, KC REACHE, a distance education effort partnering KCPT with nine area colleges and universities, began under Reed's stewardship long before distance learning was commonplace. Other successful partnerships include Network KC, an in-depth news partnership with the Kansas City Star, KCUR-FM, KPRS-FM and UMKC's Back Channel, a student production for the web; and Speaking of Women's Health, a partnership with Shawnee Mission Medical Center to conduct a yearly health symposium for 1,700 women. The TV Dinner and the KCPT Holiday Auction were also cre-

ated, and a partnership developed with the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority for the Antiques, Garden and Home Design Show to raise additional funds for the station.

From 1997 to 2001, KCPT successfully conducted a capital campaign that raised \$10 million to renovate its facilities on 31st Street and to purchase digital television equipment. The station was among the first stations to go on the air with digital television and was cited by PBS as one of seven Digital Pioneers in public television.

Reed began his public broadcasting career in 1967 as General Manager of KIXE, the public television station in Redding, California. He joined the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) in Washington, D.C., in 1974, where he was promoted to Senior Vice President in 1978 and worked until 1991. While at PBS, Reed led the planning and implementation of PBS Home Video and the PBS Adult Learning Service and the development of PBS VIDEO (a service for educational institutions). After leaving PBS, he also served as a consultant to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). Reed served on the boards of a number of local and national organizations: the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) Board of Directors from 1972 to 1974; the Association of America's Public Television Stations' (APTS) Board of Trustees from 1995 to 2001; and American Public Television (APT) Board of Directors from 1997 to 2003. He was elected as the National Educational Telecommunications Association's (NETA) first chairman in 1997. Reed served as President of the Jackson County Historical Society from 1996–1998, President of the Public Television Association of Missouri (PTAM) from 1994–1998 and 2002 to present, and Chairman of the Kansas Public Broadcasting Council (KPBC) from 1997–1998. Reed also served on the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's (CPB) Digital Television Task Force from 1998 to the present, and was a member of the Video Advisory Committee to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from 1993 to 2000.

In 1991, the Pacific Mountain Network Board honored Reed with its Governor's Award for Distinguished Service to Public Television. He also served as a private sector representative in telecommunications for the U.S. Department of State to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (1989–London); as Chairman of the Broadcast Panel for U.S.–U.S.S.R. Bilateral Information Talks (1988–Moscow); and as President of the Western Educational Network (1972).

Bill Reed was born in Los Angeles, California. He received his B.A. in History and, following a year of graduate studies, his General Secondary Teaching Credential from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. From 1963 to 1965, he served in the U.S. Army, including one year in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters and the Army Commendation Medal for Valor.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Reed and his wife, Mary Ann, will continue to live in Kansas City after his retirement. A nationwide search is underway for his replacement and his shoes will be very difficult to fill. We commend Bill Reed for his many accomplishments on behalf of the Kansas City community during his tenure at KCPT and wish him and Mary Ann all the best in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE ADLER  
PLANETARIUM ON ITS 75TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. JUDY BIGGERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Adler Planetarium on its 75th Anniversary. As the first planetarium established in America and the Western Hemisphere, it has firm standing as a pioneer in the field of astronomy. Its focus on the heavens has inspired generations to reach for the stars.

Among its many accomplishments in the past 75 years, there are several that are especially stellar. Astronomers at Adler helped convert light from the star Arcturus into the electrical signals that turned on the opening lights at the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago. Adler

began a partnership with the National Science Foundation in 1964 to create the Astro-Science workshop for Chicago area high school students—a relationship that endures to this day. And earlier this year, NASA selected Adler to be its education partner for the Interstellar Boundary Explorer mission, set to launch in 2008. It is clear that, in the opening years of the new millennium, Adler's great tradition of space and science research is stronger than ever.

The Adler Planetarium houses one of the world's finest collections of historic astronomical artifacts, dating as far back as the 12th century. A centerpiece of this collection is the world's oldest sundial, which was crafted in 1529. It also has a telescope once used by William Herschel, the astronomer who discovered Uranus in 1781.

Adler has made investments in Chicago area schools to provide them with access to exhibits, astronomers, and scientists through

videoconferencing, enhanced websites, and learning instruction techniques. These efforts to educate Chicagoans young and old are a core part of its mission.

Mr. Speaker, for many years, children of all ages have been fascinated by space and the world beyond our own. Modern youngsters watch clips of Neil Armstrong walking on the moon and gaze to the heavens in wonder—wondering how it was done and how they can do it themselves. As a planetarium, Adler harnesses these vague dreams of space science, space walks, and space travel into tangible reality. The inspiration it feeds our youth is arguably its most important contribution in the past 75 years.

With the hopes that it continues its great works for at least another 75 years, I am proud to congratulate the Adler Planetarium on its diamond anniversary.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5187–S5195*

**Measures Introduced:** Two bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1034–1035. **Pages S5191–95**

**Transportation Equity Act:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 3, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S5189–90**

Pending:

Inhofe Amendment No. 605, to provide a complete substitute. **Page S5189**

Dorgan Amendment No. 652 (to Amendment No. 605), to provide for the conduct of an investigation to determine whether market manipulation is contributing to higher gasoline prices. **Page S5189**

Inhofe (for Ensign) Amendment No. 636 (to Amendment No. 605), to authorize the State of Nevada to continue construction of the U.S.–95 Project in Las Vegas, Nevada. **Page S5189**

Allen/Ensign Amendment No. 611 (to Amendment No. 605), to modify the eligibility requirements for States to receive a grant under section 405 of title 49, United States Code. **Page S5189**

Schumer Amendment No. 674 (to Amendment No. 605), to increase the transit pass and van pooling benefit to \$200. **Page S5189**

Sessions Modified Amendment No. 646 (to Amendment No. 605), to reduce funding for certain programs. **Page S5189**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2005. **Page S5195**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

James B. Letten, of Louisiana, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana for the term of four years. **Page S5195**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S5191**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page S5191**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
**Pages S5191–94**

**Authority for Committees to Meet:** **Page S5194**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:42 a.m. until 2 p.m., on Monday, May 16, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5195.)

### Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

#### USAID ANTI-MALARIA POLICY

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* On Thursday, May 12, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security concluded an oversight hearing to assess the anti-malaria policy of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), focusing on the transmission of HIV/AIDS, health issues in Africa, and the World Health Organization (WHO), after receiving testimony from Senator Brownback; Michael Miller, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Global Health, United States Agency for International Development; Roger Bate, The American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.; Amir Attaran, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada; and Carlos C. Campbell, Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), Seattle, Washington, on behalf of the Malaria Control and Evaluation Program in Africa (MACEPA).

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. It will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, May 16 for Morning Hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

## Committee Meetings

### FREE TRADE—EFFECT OF DOMESTIC RESTRICTIONS

*Committee on Government Reform:* Held a hearing entitled “Domestic Source Restrictions Threaten Free Trade: What is the Federal Government Doing to Ensure a Level Playing Field in the Global Economy?” Testimony was from Benjamin H. Wu, Assistant Secretary, Technology and Acting Director, National Technical Information Service, Department of Commerce; Charles W. Freeman, II, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

### TSA’S SCREENING OF AIRLINE PILOTS

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity held a hearing entitled “The Transportation Security Administration’s Screening of Airline Pilots: Sound Security Practice or Waste of Scarce Resources?” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

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## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 16 through May 21, 2005

### Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 2 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3, Transportation Equity Act. At 5:30 p.m., Senate expects to vote on certain amendments.

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3, Transportation Equity Act. Senate expects to vote on certain amendments and final passage of the bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate will consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Appropriations:* May 17, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine the progress of the Capitol Visitor Center, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

May 17, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Defense, 2:30 p.m., SD-192.

May 19, Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD-124.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* May 17, to hold hearings to examine the current legal and regulatory requirements and industry practices for credit card issuers with respect to consumer disclosures and marketing efforts, 10 a.m., SD-538.

May 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Regulation NMS, designed to strengthen our national market system for equity securities, focusing on recent market developments, 10 a.m., SD-538.

May 19, Full Committee, to continue hearings to examine Regulation NMS designed to strengthen our national market system for equity securities, focusing on recent market developments, 10 a.m., SD-538.

May 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, 2 p.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* May 17, to hold hearings to examine measures that have been taken since September 11, 2001, to secure our nation’s ports, focusing on the implementation of the Maritime Transportation Security Act and vulnerabilities that remain in the maritime transportation sector, 10 a.m., SR-253.

May 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of David A. Sampson, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR-253.

May 18, Subcommittee on Science and Space, to hold hearings to examine human spaceflight, 10:30 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* May 17, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

May 18, Full Committee, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

May 19, Full Committee, business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* May 17, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety, to hold closed hearings to examine nuclear security, 9:30 a.m., S-407, Capitol.

May 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine eco-terrorism, specifically examining the Earth Liberation Front (“ELF”) and the Animal Liberation Front (“ALF”), 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

May 19, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Endangered Species Act, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* May 17, to hold hearings to examine activities of the Commission for Africa, focusing on recommendations for a coherent strategy for Africa, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

May 19, Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion, to hold hearings to examine S. 883, to direct the Secretary of State to carry out activities that promote the adoption of technologies that reduce greenhouse gas intensity in developing countries, while promoting economic development, 1 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* May 17, Subcommittee on Retirement Security and Aging, to hold hearings to examine the Administration's recommendations for the Older Americans Act Reauthorization, 10 a.m., SD-430.

May 18, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the proposed Workforce Investment Act Amendments of 2005, and pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* May 17, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to resume hearings to examine the United Nations' Oil-for-Food Program, the illegal surcharges paid on Iraqi oil sales, and the nature and extent of the 2003 Khor al-Amaya incident, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

May 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine a breakdown in safeguards against fraud and abuse in FEMA's Disaster Relief Program, focusing on FEMA's response to the 2004 hurricanes, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

May 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Philip J. Perry, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security; to be followed by a hearing on the nominations of Carolyn L. Gallagher, of Texas, and Louis J. Giuliano, of New York, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and Tony Hammond, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

May 19, Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine accountability and results in Federal budgeting, focusing on steps being taken to ensure that federal programs are effective and accountable and to explore in-depth the Program Assessment and Rating Tool (PART), which is used by OMB to assess and evaluate federal programs, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* May 18, to hold oversight hearings to examine issues relating to the taking of land into trust, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* May 17, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship, with the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security, to hold joint hearings to examine strengthening our national security, regarding the need for comprehensive immigration reform, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

May 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine issues relating to protecting the judiciary at home and in the courthouse, 8:30 a.m., SD-226.

May 18, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

May 19, Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights, to hold hearings to examine the need for a constitutional amendment relating to the protection of marriage, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* May 17, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

May 18, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

May 19, Full Committee, to hold a closed meeting to discuss certain intelligence matters, 10:30 a.m., SH-219.

## House Committees

*Committee on Appropriations,* May 16, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to mark up Fiscal Year 2006 appropriations, 5:30 p.m., 2362A Rayburn.

May 18, Full Committee, to consider the following: Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2006; the Military Quality of Life, and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006; and the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* May 18, to mark up H.R. 1815, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and the Workforce,* May 17, hearing entitled "High School Reform: Examining State and Local Efforts," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 17, Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, hearing entitled "Examining Pay-for-Performance Measures and Other Trends in Employer-Sponsored Health Care," 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, hearing entitled "Challenges to American Competitiveness in Math and Science," 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* May 16, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The United Nations Oil-for-Food Program: Saddam Hussein's Use of Oil Allocations to Undermine Sanctions and the United Nations Security Council," 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

May 17, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Subversion of Drug Testing Programs," 9:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

May 18, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Increasing Generic Drug Utilization: Saving Money for Patients," 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* May 17, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 1999, State and Local Housing Flexibility Act of 2005, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 18, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Enhancing Data Security: The Regulators' Perspective," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Financial Services Regulatory Relief: Private Sector Perspectives," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.



*Committee on Government Reform*, May 17, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, to consider pending business; followed by a hearing entitled "Question: What is More Scrambled Than an Egg? Answer: the Federal Food Inspection Program," 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 17, Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, hearing entitled "Fostering Democracy in the Middle East: Defeating Terrorism with Ballots?" 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 19, full Committee, hearing entitled "Steroid Use in Sports Part III: Examining Basketball Association's Steroid Testing Program," 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

May 20, hearing entitled "Declaration of Education: Toward a Culture of Achievement in D.C. Public Schools," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, May 19, Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity, hearing on H.R. 1509, Recreational Boaters Streamlined Inspection Act, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

*Committee on House Administration*, May 19, to mark up H.R. 1316, 527 Fairness Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on International Relations*, May 18, hearing on Kosovo: Current and Future Status, 10:30 a.m., 12172 Rayburn.

May 18, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, hearing on U.N. Peacekeeping Reform: Seeking Greater Accountability and Integrity, 2:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

May 19, Full Committee, hearing and briefing on Reforming the United Nations: Budget and Management Perspectives, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, May 17, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on Intellectual Property Theft in China, 12 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

May 19, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, May 19, oversight hearing on Mutual Fund Trading Abuses, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Resources*, May 18, to mark up the following measures: H.R. 38, Upper White Salmon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; H.R. 125, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River, California; H.R. 362, Ojito Wilderness Act; H.R. 394, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as a part of the Minute Man National Historical Park; H.R. 432, Betty Dick Residence Protection Act; H.R. 481, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Establishment Act of 2005; H.R. 517, Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2005; H.R. 539, Caribbean National Forest Act of 2005; H.R. 599, Federal Lands Restoration, Enhancement, Public Education, and Information Resources Act of 2005; H.R. 774, Rocky Mountain National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2005; H.R. 853, To remove

certain restrictions on the Mammoth Community Water District's ability to use certain property acquired by that District from the United States; H.R. 873, Northern Marianas Delegate Act; H.R. 975, Trail Responsibility and Accountability for the Improvement of Lands Act; H.R. 1084, To authorize the establishment at Antietam National Battlefield of a memorial to the officers and enlisted men of the Fifth, Sixth, and Ninth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry Regiments and the First New Hampshire Light Artillery Battery who fought in the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862; H.R. 1428, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2005; H.R. 1492, To provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II; H.R. 1797, Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation Grand Coulee Dam Equitable Compensation Settlement Act; H.R. 1905, Small Tracts Reform Act; H.R. 2130, Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2005; and the National Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 19, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing entitled "The Impacts of High Energy Costs to the American Consumer," 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

May 19, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 50, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Rules*, May 16, to consider the following: H.R. 2360, Making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006; and H.R. 2361, Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, 5 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

May 17, to consider H.R. 1817, Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, 2:30 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Science*, May 17, to mark up H.R. 50, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

May 18, Subcommittee on Research, hearing on The National Nanotechnology Initiative: Review and Outlook, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, May 19, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Oversight, hearing on the benefits small businesses will receive if drilling is allowed in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, May 18, to consider the following: GSA 3314(b) Resolutions; H. Con. Res. 145, Expressing the sense of Congress in support of a national bike month and in appreciation of cyclists and others for promoting bicycle safety and the benefits of cycling; H. Res. 243, Recognizing the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the National Safe Boating Council for their efforts to promote National Safe Boating Week; H.R. 624, To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for sewer overflow control grants; H.R. 889, Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2005; and H.R.

1359, To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to extend the pilot program for alternative water source projects, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, May 18, Subcommittee on Health, oversight hearing on the use and development of telemedicine technologies in the Department of Veterans health care system, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

May 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, oversight hearing regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs' and the Department of Defense's efforts to assist military personnel in making a "seamless transition" from active duty to veterans' status, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, May 17, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on Protecting and Strengthening Social Security, 2 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

May 17, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing on the Future of the World Trade Organization, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

May 18, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Protections for Foster Children Enrolled in Clinical Trials, 2 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

May 19, Full Committee, hearing on the Retirement Policy Challenges and Opportunities of our Aging Society, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, May 19, to continue hearings on the PATRIOT Act, Part II, 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

2 p.m., Monday, May 16

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

12:30 p.m., Monday, May 16

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 3, Transportation Equity Act. Senate expects to vote on certain amendments beginning at 5:30 p.m.

## House Chamber

**Program for Monday:** To be announced.

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# Congressional Record

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